THE SURVEY

Vol. LXV. No. 12 MIDMONTHLY March 15, 1931

CONTENTS

FRONTISPIECE - - - - - - - - *Cartoon by Knott* 642
EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS - - - - - - - - - - - - 643
ALMS AND THE CASE WORKER - - *Robert W. Kelso* 647
THE CHILD TAKES THE LEAD - *Haven Emerson, M.D.* 649
A POSSIBLE JUSTIFICATION OF RESEARCH - *Joseph Lee* 651
HOW BIG SHOULD A BIG BROTHER BE? - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - *I. M. Rubinow* 652
RAMBLING BOY - - - - - - - - - *Williard Johnson* 653
FOURTEEN FIRMS GO PIONEERING - *Beulah Amidon* 654
PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY DEFENDERS - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - *Francis Fisher Kane* 655
BRAINS INSTEAD OF PRISON WALLS - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - *Gertrude Springer* 657
TOWARDS A NEW COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - *Joseph K. Hart* 658
HEALTH, A FAMILY PROBLEM - - *Mary B. Gilson* 660
FLEXNERIZING THE UNIVERSITIES *John Palmer Gavit* 662
HEALTH - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 664
Controlling Colds, Rural Health in Massachusetts, Obedience as a Question of Health, Thrift and Health in Food Where Nurses are Needed, Bright Spots of 1930, a Clinic for Family Regulation, If Winter Comes
SOCIAL PRACTICE - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 666
A Check on Rolling Stones, Laws to Fit Our Times, What Nobody Knows, Field Study Is Revealing, Various Pamphlets, Salvaging Runaway Boys, Perils of Parking, Old Age in Frankfort
COMMUNITIES - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 668
Housing in Los Angeles, The President's Conference, Two International Conferences, Good Roads from Bad Times, Philadelphia Plans, Tailor- vs. Factory-made, The Reckless Driver
INDUSTRY - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 670
Brookwood's First Ten Years, Pensions for Wage-Earners General Motors and the Rainy Day, Back on the Job, Shielding Child Workers, Defeat at Danville, Something about Unemployment
EDUCATION - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 672
Close of an Experiment, A Peace Project, The Business Side, Postgraduate Night School, Smith Looks at Some Freshmen, Home as a Laboratory, For the Gifted, Biology for the Young
WORKSHOP - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 674
Localizing National Agencies, *Margaret Rich,* What Should the Reference Tell? *Leroy A. Ramsdell, Lillian A. Quinn, J. Blaine Gwin,* Arthur Dunham and the Red Queen
BOOKS - 678
COMMUNICATIONS - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 682
GOSSIP - 684

The Gist of It

STORIES of case workers sticking on the job until they drop, of puzzled young women handing out indiscriminate baskets of food and otherwise flying in the face of their professional training, of executives throwing up the sponge and board members stampeding for bread lines have come to The Survey in such numbers that we felt it high time to get a cool appraisal of the situation—"this riot of alms"—and turned for it to ROBERT W. KELSO, of the St. Louis Community Fund, whose clear and unalarmed discussion is printed on page 647. We were particularly interested in what he says of social work next year and the years to follow that.

THE Medical Section of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, meeting three months after the other sections, brought together a large and important and fascinating amount of information on child health, which is interpreted for laymen on page 649 by DR. HAVEN EMERSON, health editor of The Survey.

NEXT month JOSEPH LEE, who writes on page 651 of A Possible Justification of Research, will have been president of the National Recreation Association for twenty years. Here he touches on how many youngsters in Boston use the playgrounds, and why.

ALTHOUGH he confesses he has never been a Big Brother, I. M. RUBINOW started life as a little brother, and he has worked out some significant aspects of brotherhood on a psychological basis. His article (page 652) is based on an address which he gave before the Big Brothers Association of Cincinnati, where he is the secretary of the B'nai B'rith.

AMONG the outstanding community efforts in giving working folk a shock absorber for the bumps of hard times is the unemployment benefit plan of fourteen firms in Rochester, N. Y., described on page 654 by BEULAH AMIDON of The Survey staff.

IN his efforts to organize a plan for the legal defense of Philadelphians charged with crimes and too poor to hire a lawyer, FRANCIS FISHER KANE collected a mass of information on how various cities and states employ public or voluntary defenders, which he summerizes for Survey readers on page 655. Mr. Kane is an outstanding member of the Philadelphia Bar and a former United States district attorney.

IT is not so much what's built into the walls that makes a prison as what's in the warden's head; particularly if a prison is regarded as a place where man may be made over rather than made worse. The notable report of the commission headed by Sam A. Lewisohn reviewed on page 657 by GERTRUDE SPRINGER of the Survey staff.

THE papers have been full of dispatches on the spirited educational conference held at the unique Rollins College in Florida. A review of the sessions by the former education editor of The Survey, JOSEPH K. HART, who is now professor of education at Vanderbilt University. Page 658.

A BY-PRODUCT of her interest in England and her frequent trips there, MARY B. GILSON of Industrial Relations Counselors', Inc., came upon a book not yet published in this country which describes a fascinating London experiment in neighborhood health work.

ONE practical outcome of Abraham Flexner's book on universities is to be the founding of an Institute for Advanced Study under his direction in which only postgraduate work will be given. His book is held to be epoch-making in the review on page 662 by JOHN PALMER GAVIT of The Survey staff.

SOME fundamental aspects of the relations of national and local social agencies—one of the perennial wrangles when nationals and locals do foregather—discussed on page 674 by MARGARET E. RICH, editor of our neighbor, The Family.

SURVEY ASSOCIATES, INC.

112 East 19th Street, New York

PUBLISHERS

THE SURVEY—Twice-a-month—$5.00 a year

SURVEY GRAPHIC—Monthly—$3.00 a year

ROBERT W. DEFOREST, *president;* JULIAN W. MACK, *vice-president;* JOHN PALMER GAVIT, *secretary;* ARTHUR KELLOGG, *treasurer;* MIRIAM STEEP, *director finance and membership.*

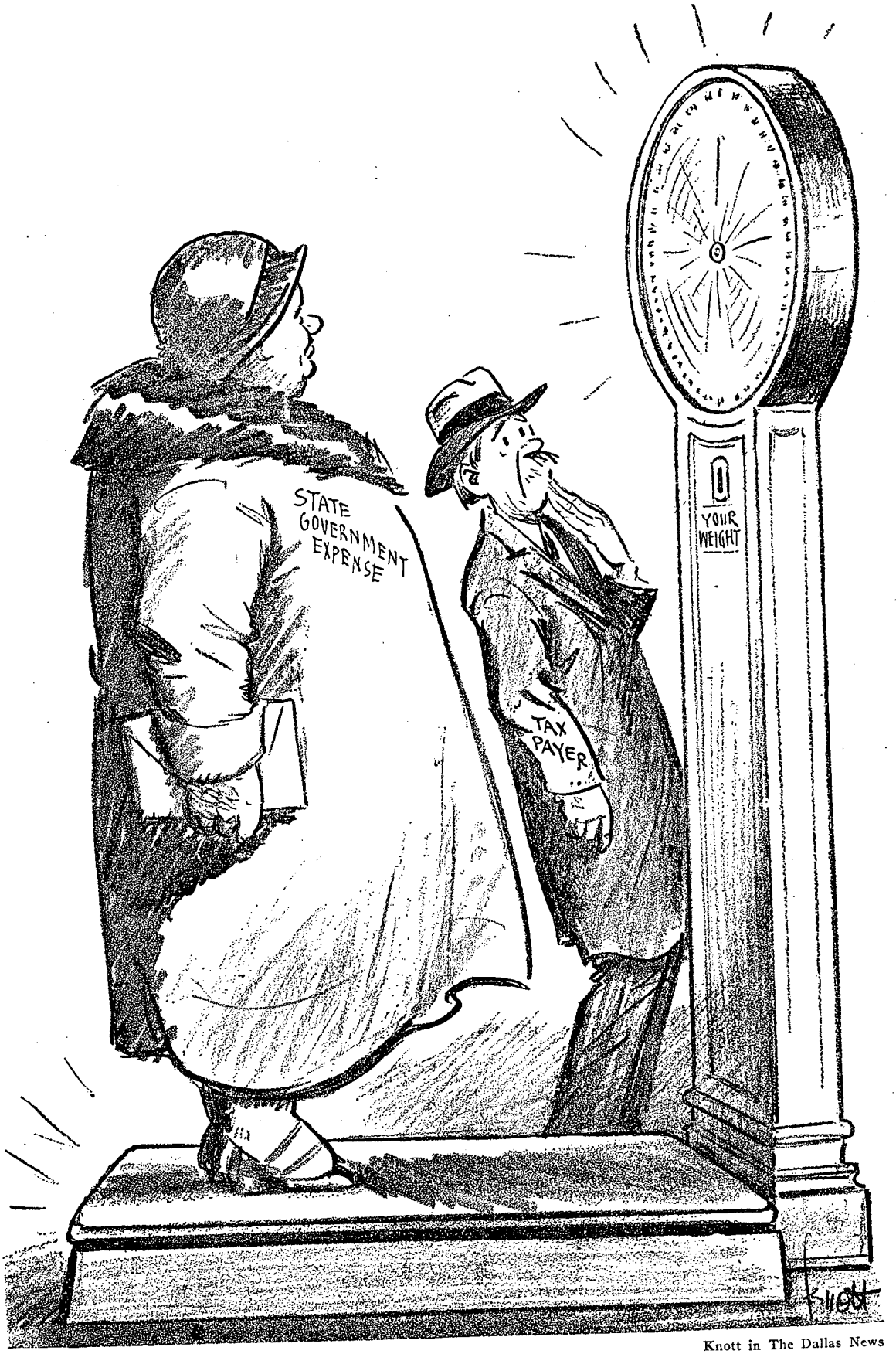
PAUL U. KELLOGG, *editor.*

ARTHUR KELLOGG, *managing editor;* HAVEN EMERSON, M.D., ROBERT W. BRUÈRE, MARY ROSS, BEULAH AMIDON, LEON WHIPPLE, JOHN PALMER GAVIT, JOHN D. KENDERDINE, LOULA D. LASKER, FLORENCE LOEB KELLOGG, GERTRUDE SPRINGER, *associate editors.*

EDWARD T. DEVINE, GRAHAM TAYLOR, JANE ADDAMS, FLORENCE KELLEY, JOSEPH K. HART, *contributing editors.*

JOHN D. KENDERDINE, *business manager;* MARY R. ANDERSON, *advertising manager;* MOLLIE CONDON, *extension manager.*

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



Knott in The Dallas News

QUEEN OF THE STOUTS

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

THE SURVEY

March 15
1931

Volume LXV
No. 12

The Silver Lining

LONG-SUFFERING talesmen in many communities will rise to cheer for J. D. Frankton, president of the Association of Commerce and chairman of the Emergency Unemployment Fund's Committee on Employment at Wheeling, West Virginia. He has arranged with the courts of Wheeling to make up their jury panels entirely from unemployed men. Under court rules, which remain a hopeless mystery to laymen, it is illegal for a man to volunteer—the queer dick who wants to sit on a jury may not say so, and jurymen must be haled to court as resentfully as defendants. But Mr. Frankton has got around this by going to factories and stores and making up a list of office men laid off to whose character their firms will certify. The panels will be made up from this list.

Justice Holmes at Ninety

WE who love liberty and cling to faith in our American groping toward its expression in national life, feel a stir of enthusiasm at the name of Justice Holmes and at the fact of his ninetieth birthday. Seventy years ago Oliver Wendell Holmes, just out of Harvard, offered his life in defense of human freedom. And in the decades since that stirring youth, when for four years he was scarcely out of sound of the guns and once lay for three days among the dead of Antietem, he has not lost either the passion or the courage of his devotion to American principles as they are expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the bill of rights. He was practicing attorney, law school lecturer, associate justice and chief justice of the highest court of his own state, before his appointment to the United States Supreme Court in 1902. Against entrenched power, "Holmes and Brandeis dissenting" have often been more clearly heard than the binding opinion of the court. Encyclopedic knowledge of the law, ripe scholarship, mellow wisdom, literary charm, fearlessness and honesty and salty humor—these are among the great gifts Mr. Justice Holmes has devoted to the service of the country. At ninety, he does his day's work with vigor and apparently with undimmed enthusiasm. In a time of doubt and confusion, of uncertain leadership and wavering faith, it is a heartening thing to look back over the nine decades of this American life. For the soil in which it is rooted must be a sound soil. And through the day's dust and smoke there sounds, at his name, the bugle note of an idealism that is still vibrant, of a faith in liberty that is undismayed.

Marionettes and Medicine

IN a much-discussed address before the New York Academy of Medicine, the statement which made the headlines was the assertion by Dr. Samuel J. Kopetzky that the philanthropic foundations are "stifling medicine." Such, in fact, was the title with which he headed his address, exempting in its course one foundation which has been interested in demonstrations of public health and two whose primary scope is scientific research or medical education. Standardization, "subjugation of the individual," is the enemy that Dr. Kopetzky decries, and toward this he believes that the foundations exert a baleful influence in the medical schools, in public health service and in "costly and unproductive experiments with the conditions of medical practice." As a number of well-known physicians pointed out in interviews published the following day, Dr. Kopetzky's remarks were as widely spread as the aims of the foundations he criticized for vagueness. It is difficult to see from the official copy of his address at just whom or what the criticism is levelled explicitly. To some of his general premises, however, exception may be suggested. Is it not just on standardization and on the subordination of the individual worker to the aims and effectiveness of the organization that the past decades of public health work—and in them the larger part of preventive medicine—has been laid? In this it has been possible for official groups to evolve relations with the individual doctor that seem to have worked for the benefit of the physician, the potential patient and the public. In other aspects, of course, the relationship may have to be different; may be beset with difficulties—but here at least the bark of the word has been far worse than its bite.

As for experiments with the "conditions of medical practice" it would seem that a closer analysis of the best known experiments in medical organization would show that

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

it was not the professional service that the laymen are trying to influence, but the economic conditions under which it is rendered, received and paid for; and that their intention, at least, and their careful aim is to ensure economic improvement not only for the patient but also for the physician, who is often underpaid or not paid at all, and on whom, inevitably, the care of the patient depends. Between the opposing pictures that Dr. Kopetzky sketched of the individual "struggling against engulfment by the mass" and "a strong central authority which would reduce the individual to the role of a marionette" there is surely a middle course in which group action may be worked out harmoniously for the advantage of all. Such a course might result in the very ideal which Dr. Kopetzky himself delineates—that "organization is not an end in itself but a tool to enable the individual to function at the maximum efficiency and to the fullest development of his native powers."

Ben Selling

IN the death of Ben Selling, Portland, Oregon, has lost its first citizen and Survey Associates a staunch and long-time member. There was scarcely an undertaking or movement of a creative sort having to do with the social and civic life of his city in which Mr. Selling did not play a quiet but effective part. Many of the steps he took which made for social advances were never known to the public. His tolerance, imagination and liberal outlook in his larger civic work was paralleled by intimate offices of friendship and understanding. In his vest pocket he carried a little memorandum book of loans which had meant everything from education and a chance in life to the help that salvaged the fortunes of some friend or stranger. He was a real leader in an awakened and responsive community and gave a human slant to the vision of the Northwest.

Senator Wagner's Program

THE last of the three bills drafted and introduced by Senator Wagner of New York during the 1927-8 recession to provide advance planning against unemployment crises has passed both House and Senate. This measure organizes the American labor market through a system of federal grants to states cooperating in a nation-wide system of free placement offices. An appropriation of $1,500,000 for the first year and four million dollars a year for three succeeding years is authorized. The staff of the United States Employment Services, under this bill, will be civil service employes and provision is also made for federal and state advisory councils of employers, employes and technical experts to discuss unemployment problems.

When he introduced his bills several years ago, Senator Wagner called them "the first three steps on the road to stabilized prosperity." The first, adopted last spring, will make possible more adequate information on labor trends in this country, particularly technological unemployment. The second, enacted earlier in this session, requires advance planning and scheduling of public works to take up the slacks in private enterprise. A substitute for the third bill (the one just passed) was brought forward late in February by the new secretary of labor who had as a trade union leader endorsed the Wagner bill. It discarded the cooperative state system of public employment services provided by the Wagner bill and eliminated federal aid. It ran counter to the recommendations of the 1921 Unemployment Conference, of which Mr. Hoover, then secretary of commerce, was chairman.

In spite of the eleventh hour proposal by the administration of this weak substitute, it is hoped that the President will sign the Wagner bill as a constructive project, laying down in the period covered by the act the enduring framework for a cooperative state system. It would be a collapse of our engineering faculty as a nation to let this unemployment crisis slide without making headway in bringing order into the chaotic field of labor placement.

When Young Fathers Are Idle

CHICAGO COMMONS has taken a long look at fifty-five young couples—its neighbors and friends— in an effort to appraise the damage worked on them by unemployment at a time when normally they would have been building sound foundations for American family life. The men are able-bodied, around thirty years old, with good work records. Practically all of them were born in Chicago or have lived there more than ten years. They have been out of work for periods varying from a few months to a year with a total of 380 months unemployment and a wage loss of $34,200. There are ninety-five children in these little families, most of them under six years of age. The oldest is only eleven.

Ever since unemployment overtook them the young fathers have struggled to work out their own salvation. Only when every asset of savings and credit was exhausted did they turn to charity. Even now twenty-five of them are continuing the struggle without outside help. They have moved to cheaper homes, lost some of their furniture, accumulated debts, denied themselves proper food and medical attention. Discouragement and depression are now taking their toll. "If I got a job tomorrow it would take me three years to crawl out of debt. What's the use!"

The Commons helps these neighbors as it can. It supplies milk, it uses a small private work fund for a few cases, it tries to occupy the desolating leisure with group activities, helps to make the contact with organized relief—that first hard step away from independence. The real study of these young families, the appraisal of what this winter's bitter experience has done to them, should be made ten years hence. Lost wages can be measured now, but not the dreary sequellae of lowered standards and broken morale. Ten years will hardly be long enough to tell the whole story.

Charles N. Lathrop

A FIGHTING heart was lost to the church and to social work when the Rev. Charles A. Lathrop died in San Francisco in January. For ten years he had headed the Department of Christian Social Service of the National Council of the Episcopal Church, but for thirty years, ever since his graduation from Western Theological Seminary, he had been identified with social movements. He was of that breed of men who are stirred by social injustice and who strike fearlessly at its source. The church claimed his first loyalty and it was through the church and its institutions that much of his force of leadership was directed. His militant social conscience quickened the church to an effort to bring about closer relations between capital and labor, to extend the social

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

aspects of its work into isolated rural districts and to prepare the clergy for social duties by organized courses in social service. The condition of American jails which he had observed at first hand fired him with indignation. "If a score of the bishops could be locked up in the average American jail for two or three weeks," said he, addressing the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, "I think there is no doubt that needed reforms would quickly follow." Dr. Lathrop was the dynamic president of the National Conference on Social Service of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He organized its program for the Boston meeting last June and had the coming Minneapolis program in hand at the time of his death. Something of vital inspiration will be missing at Minneapolis because he will not be there.

Drought Relief

THE drought relief controversy at Washington made a full circle. The final compromise liberalized the loans to be made under the $45,000,000 seed, feed, fertilizer and fuel oil bill so as to provide for feeding all live stock (and not merely work animals). An additional $20,000,000 was appropriated to be used in making loans (1) for capital stock for organizing and enlarging agricultural credit corporations, and (2) for purposes of crop production and rehabilitation. Before the Senate accepted the compromise, under resolution of Senator Borah, the Secretary of Agriculture was called on to define the last named provision and in the midst of many words, he used the crucial ones that food and other necessities were comprehended in the phrasing agreed on by Senator Robinson and the White House. Thus after two months hitching and hawing, the senator from Arkansas had his way on this point. Measures were passed almost identical with what was the intent of the conference of all concerned at the Department of Agriculture in late November, and with the scope of the original $60,000,000 farm loan credit bill which was drafted by McNary and Aswell to give effect to it, and which had been short-circuited by the administration. On the other hand, the southwesterners, led by Mr. Robinson, abandoned their subsequent effort to get federal relief for the drought sufferers; and it remained for senators like Borah and Glass to stand out for that, to drive at what they regarded as demeaning requirements set up by the Department of Agriculture in making the loans and failure to provide credit for those who have no security. And it remained for senators like Wheeler in the closing days of the session to raise again the issue of federal unemployment relief.

Meanwhile the Red Cross has slowly completed its $10,000,000 fund, and actively expanded its work of succor in the drought areas.

Oysters and the April Graphic

THE female American oyster, Science tells us, lays from 15 to 114.8 millions of eggs a year; the female Japanese oyster, from 11.4 to 55.8 millions. With a sigh of relief we can settle back and think that here at least is no chance for a hyper-Nordic to cry "Yellow Peril," though what the Japanese may say is another thing. Among human beings, however, the case is far less simple; we cannot view their potentialities with the equanimity—and even gustatory anticipation—that the oyster provokes; nor on the other hand, can we consider a cold-blooded plan to wipe them out, as we would the oyster, should they threaten to outgrow their sphere. A recent careful study by Louis I. Dublin points out, for example, the population problems of Europe, where in some countries the death rate exceeds the birth rate to produce a waning number of people, while in others the birth rate is so far the higher as to give a natural increase of 21 per 1000 of population each year. In such disparities is written an intense need for further information and study to give the facts for a policy with the largest hope of peace and prosperity for all.

In not only its quantitative aspects, however—the scope of Dr. Dublin's study—but also in its quality, "population" becomes a personal issue. In it are bound up the fates of ourselves and our children—what we earn, what we do, whom we marry, how many children we desire. Some of these questions and suggestions of the ways in which science is striving to learn the facts of ourselves, and on the basis of this knowledge to better our common clay and common lot. will form the framework of the April 1 issue of The Survey, a special number to be called Science Looks at People. Here will be the story told by biologist, sociologist, anatomist, by those learned and wise in psychology, anthropology, public health—the sciences which observe and influence both the quantity and quality of our individual and social life. Population by the million becomes a rather terrifying abstraction; in the concrete, it is what we are.

Basement Dwelling 1931

ON February 25 social workers, real estate interests, et al, appeared before the legislature in Albany stating why they believed the Multiple Dwelling Law should—or should not—be revised according to various amendments previously introduced into House and Senate. By the time this issue reaches the public, or perhaps a little later, some of these amendments will—or will not—have become law. While the practical application of the law through the two years since its passage points to the necessity for certain changes, many of the amendments offered do not, we think, rest on a sound pragmatic foundation. In The Survey Midmonthly of February 15 under the title of Cave Dwelling 1931, we took exception to the Downing-Steingut bill, sponsored by the tenement-house commissioner of New York City, which would "permit the occupancy of cellars under the same dismal conditions that existed prior to the enactment of the present law two years ago." This bill is *not* sponsored by the Multiple Dwelling Law Committee as we stated. Quite the contrary. And we hasten to correct our misstatement and apologize for it. However, in the same spirit of fairness we feel called upon to point out that the Hofstadter-Moffat bill, sponsored by this committee, would give the tenement-house commissioner authority to permit *until April* 1, 1932, occupancy of cellars and basements if in his opinion earlier enforcement would endanger health or safety. While fully alive to the practical aspects of the situation, we cannot agree with the contention of the committee that it is imperative to delegate this power to the commissioner on the grounds that "to require several thousand families living in substandard old-law tenement cellars to vacate their homes under present conditions of economic stress might in many cases result in serious hardships." Other provisions in the same bill which would vitiate the present law, in all

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

probability will be modified, we are informed, before final action is taken. We hope so.

The sincerity of the Multiple Dwellings Law Committee is not questioned; its accomplishment in aligning with it responsible welfare groups and the substantial progressive elements among the realty, architectural and building interests is appreciated. Undoubtedly it has been responsible for many advances which have been achieved under the law. That it has not satisfied left-wingers in either group may be taken as evidence of its fair-mindedness. Yet we can not but feel that in the instances cited above the committee has been far too conservative, inasmuch as there are at the present time more vacant apartments in old-law tenements in New York City than ever before. Is then this not the ideal time to bring about the complete transition from cellar and basement occupancy?

"Joe" Cotton

THE critical illness of Under Secretary of State Joseph P. Cotton has been a severe blow to all of those who had come in contact with this gallant and vivid personality in the State Department. Mr. Cotton has been without doubt one of the most colorful figures in public life today, one whose charm, whose whimsical humor, whose penetrating cynicism were like a fresh wind among the stagnant and musty traditions of the Department. The country has found in him that rare public servant who seems really emancipated from personal ambition, and who brings to his office intelligence, humor and tolerant understanding. Tradition for tradition's sake irritates him and he has a refreshing way of slashing through the stupid red tape which so often ties up important issues. Above all he is a realist and believes that governments are meant to serve the best interests of all the people and not merely the whims of vested interests. He has been far from a radical in his political views and there are a few in Washington who would label him even as a liberal, but he despises jingoism, cant and stupidity. He believes that national dignity, like personal dignity lies in the realization that the government is *not* always right, and that the Anglo-Saxon does not have a corner on all the culture or all the wisdom of the world.

Teachers Militant

IN the happy teens a birthday means no wistful mood but a look ahead to busier and more exciting years. It is with this buoyant eagerness for the next job that the Teachers' Union of New York celebrates its fifteenth birthday this week. Organized as Local 5 of the American Federation of Teachers, the union in its early years worked chiefly for such gains as a sound pension law, increased salaries, better school equipment. But in 1920 it stepped into the headlines as the only teachers' organization that dared speak out against the four-volume Lusk Committee report on Subversive Activities, the basis for the notorious Lusk school laws. The Teachers' Union opposed these laws from their proposal till their repeal in 1923. Through the American Federation of Teachers, the union has had national influence in arousing teachers against legislative efforts to censor school textbooks, race discrimination in the schools, compulsory military drill for children, yellow-dog teaching contracts. Indeed it is as a body of militant protest in a profession proverbially docile and timid that the union has done greatest service. Under the leadership of Henry R. Linville, its director since 1916, it has never hesitated to challenge educational or political powers and it has shown, too, the dogged strength to hold on through long, disheartening, undramatic fights, as it did in the five-year campaign to force the publication of the 1924 school survey. If it approaches its birthday with the enthusiasm of the hearty fifteen-year-old, its look back over the years shows, too, vision, independence, mature strength—heartening traits in a great group of public school teachers.

Churchmen Speak Out

A REFRESHING amount of plain speaking ran through the conference called by the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the Social Justice Commission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Social Service Commission of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ. The conference called its subject Permanent Preventives of Unemployment. The discussion was of such familiar terms as stabilization, unemployment insurance and a public-works program. That these still remain subjects for discussion rather than action brought forth much frank criticism of the national administration. Deeper than this was the question as to the possibility of a wider distribution of income under our American system. Prof. John R. Commons stressed unemployment insurance as an incentive to stabilize labor turn-over and suggested that our great financial interests want unemployment so that labor will accept wage cuts which will place us in a position to compete with Europe. John E. Edgerton, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, answered him in a way that made one feel that he wished to recommend prayer rather than legislation. Perhaps his strongest argument against unemployment insurance was that it would destroy the churches and philanthropy, as their power rested on their ability to relieve misery. Mr. Edgerton closed with a picture of his ideal American, a man kneeling with a prayer-book in one hand and the Constitution in the other.

The closing note was on the moral implications of unemployment.

From Private to Public

UNLESS public funds come to the rescue, the unemployed of New York, say the social workers, are facing a condition of destitution and suffering which they have not hitherto approached. The situation as presented to the public at a mass meeting called by the Welfare Council, is briefly this: reliable estimates put the number of unemployed at 750,000 with a total monthly wage loss of eighty million dollars. Public and private relief in January amounted to $3,133,775 of which $1,522,570 came from the funds raised by the Emergency Employment Committee and $91,600 from the Mayor's Official Committee. Both these special funds will be exhausted in April. The social agencies are at the end of their resources. May looms ahead as the peak of distress with at least five months more of heavy strain. The Welfare Council, backed by a unanimous resolution of the mass meeting, is pressing the city for an appropriation of ten million dollars to be disbursed at the rate of two million a month by city officials for part-time wages following the plan of the Emergency Work Bureau. "New York," says the Council, "must come to the rescue of its citizens."

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Alms and the Case Worker

Some Cooling Advice to the Hot and Bothered

By ROBERT W. KELSO

A WORLD convinced against its will is of the same opinion still: which is another way of saying that the mores and folk-customs of a people are perennial, and indifferent to the assaults of panaceas and philosophies. To a race enamored of sentimental doles, it is hazardous if not fatuous and fond, to preach a philosophy of case work and self-help. It was a wise saying of Sumner, in his study of folkways, that "no creed, no moral code and no scientific demonstration can ever win the same hold upon men and women, as habits of action, with associated sentiments and states of mind, drilled in from childhood."

The social worker may not find at once in this consideration the wherefore of our present hysterical riot of alms; yet this is the explanation of it. In any of our sizeable cities —call the place Everycity—the doorway of each family relief society is beset by a constantly changing group of the ragged and forlorn. Inside, the old waiting room has been enlarged to take in a part of the hall, and even the board room has folded up its lateral comforts and stands by to afford vertical necessities.

In every corner of this available space, some seated, some standing, are grim-jawed men and disillusioned women, waiting their turn at the receiving desk. Above the low hum of conversation, may be heard now and again the sharper note of a woman's voice. It is the social worker. In her we find the chief object of this attempt to identify and to consider some of the professional aspects of social work in this emergency winter.

This young lady at the desk, who still no doubt carries some natural freshness on her cheek, is hopping from one case to another at a rate far in excess of her capacity for routine. As a consequence she is all hot and bothered. In her predicament she has not even the advantage of that numbness in her clients which characterizes the disaster victim; for her applicants are not persons who have been burned out by a great conflagration, or who have fled an earthquake or a battle area. They are only folk who are being gradually squeezed to death in the nut-cracker of our industrial system. They are observant and critical; for has not the pulpit with fervor explained their misery; and has not the daily press, with ill-concealed candor, hinted that if the rich do not give to these hungry citizens they will come and take it? Then why should a mere social worker ask them when they last had a job and whether there were any relatives who might help? What's the point in saying that they can't have help if they have no children, just because the money won't go 'round, and the fellow with the kids comes first? Why do anything except give them what they ask?

Struggling her best to do her duty gently, this girl with the tousled hair and the tired look in her eyes gets through the long day's grind and goes to her lodgings. Here she has a little time to think. She takes note of the fact that substantially she has done but two things during the day: either she has refused and referred applicants, or she has started the process of an order for food or fuel. So far as she has been actively helping people, she has been dispensing alms.

NOW this same girl is a recent graduate of a school for social work. There she has studied the theory of social relations, social surveys, social statistics and the social aspects of disease. She has taken courses in the problems of personality; in the adjustment of wrong social relations. She has been filled with the fear of alms and doles as pauperizing and anti-social processes. Case work which she can unerringly define as the adjustment of the individual to his surroundings, with the highest degree of protection and advantage to the community, and with the greatest happiness to himself—this has been her great aim in social work, and so far as she knows the only legitimate aim. She has been warned that the public is ill-informed and sometimes old-fogy in its ideas, but her clear inference has been that the profession of social work is changing all this and must shortly, under right leadership, forever put an end to old theories of unthinking and degrading doles.

What a shock then, to find that the public is criticising paid service in bitter phrase; and that members of her own board are disposed to let some of the help go in order to put their salaries into food for basket distribution. Naturally she wonders whether there isn't something very wrong with her training; certainly there is something very wrong with the world.

Now this young lady in the family relief society is not the only worried worker in the feverish effort of this emergency winter. Over in the Y.W.C.A. is another young lady whose business has been protective work with older girls. Yonder at the Girl Scout office is a captain of young girls, none of whom is hungry for victuals but all of whom are eager for wholesome leadership. In the same class with these workers is the supervisor of play, whose job has always been to help build character through play, its most effective channel.

And back in the private office too, is the executive, wondering how in the world the elements of the social-work program can be held together against the assaults of the sentimental.

These workers have been astonished to see their projects turned down by their own boards of trustees with the explanation that it would be unwise to think of expansion just now; and they are alarmed to read in the press a demand that character-building agencies curtail their budgets; that Community Chests refuse to appropriate to them; and all because when times are hard the poor must be fed and these "frills" that may be all right in prosperous times should be suspended.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Out on the street the wandering beggar, usually an able-bodied man, wants a dime for a cup of coffee or carfare to get to a home, which in reality is only the flop-house around the corner. At the curb sits the pathetic cripple, who is a professional beggar and who has time and again been offered help to get him off the street, but who will step out of his role any time to tell an officer or a social worker he is earning a decent living and doesn't want any damned interference.

It is a time of great-heartedness. Business men's committees exhort themselves with the enthusiasms of the camp meeting, to ask the public for fabulous sums of money for the relief of the hungry. They go in force before the city authorities and demand appropriations for more food. Earnest, warm-hearted ladies with more money than brains, drive limousines through slum alleys to soup kitchens, where they put in many virtuous hours. The police, the firemen, car company employes, gas company people, organize central committees to help the poor—not just the people in their own group who are in hard luck, but anybody, anywhere. Everybody suffers from hysteria except the poor, and the most level-headed among the poor are the professional parasites. For them the goose hangs high this winter.

Social workers are asking themselves whether the public will ever learn that this is not the way to handle relief in an unemployment period. Some seem discouraged. They say, "But what can we do? The best people in town are just crazy about soup kitchens, and nobody will listen when we say that the whirlwind will have to be reaped."

These workers are not optimists; they forget that foresight is not one of the virtues of democracy; and they have overlooked that observation of Sumner's with which we began this discussion. Some of them are short-sighted enough to wonder whether the activities of boards of aldermen, of state legislatures and of our federal Congress, do not mean a permanent taking over of relief processes by government, to be conducted hereafter on a basis of doles; whether in fact the present surfeit of unthinking charity has not undone forever the slow and careful process of individual case-work service begun in the '80s of the last century.

THESE fearsome folk are unduly alarmed. The people of the United States are even now in the early stages of a great object lesson in the treatment of social relations. In no period were indiscriminate alms so likely to sow the whirlwind as now, when the industrial system is showing its ugly consequences and the democracy that fosters it is so definitely upon its trial. Today our citizenry is in an ugly mood. Men shout "plutocracy." They demand relief, not as alms but as a division. Mass processes in relief reveal themselves to this numerous company as shrinking fear lest the hungry rise up.

It is a nightmare of the times, not lasting. The sound common sense of social work will catch the attention of the nation on the rebound. In six months, after the bankers have announced the real return of prosperity, the American people will have forgotten that anyone ever was hungry. I say "all will have forgotten;" except of course, the hungry themselves, and the social workers, who will have a full two years of mopping up to do after the present riot. Cities that have appropriated large sums for relief this winter will growl loudly at the heavy taxes certain to follow; and this growl will help to discourage the politician who realizes the personal advantage of dispensing largesse. It will be one of the heaviest tasks of Community Chests this next autumn and the year following to convince the generous public that the return of better times does not mean an immediately reduced volume of social-work needs. Quotas will have to be as large as in the drives of 1930, not only because governments will seek to recoup for their frolic of expenditures this winter but also because the public, generally speaking, will have forgotten the need.

Rightly viewed, this is a momentous winter to the profession of social work, not because of the volume and the intensity of the effort required, but rather because it is destined to be a turning-point for the people of the United States into a new cycle of thought and of action regarding social relations. Just as the '80s of the last century were the golden decade of social consciousness and social work processes following reconstruction and the Civil War, so the '30s of this century are destined to be the period of great growth in the welding together of a constructive program of social-welfare service to meet the urgent needs of modern city life.

IN spite of the well-known dangers of prognostication, it is easy to see that scientific methods in hospitalization, in the clinic and the dispensary, are leading to an ever increasing disposition to scrutinize the capacities of the client and a refusal to accept him blindly, as a cross to be borne. The doctrine of skilled personal service in family relief—so obnoxious for the moment—is sinking slowly into the consciousness of the saner public. Movements like city and town planning are coming rapidly above the mass horizon as accomplishments necessary to civic happiness and to the breeding and rearing of children in the modern city. Even birth control with all the choreic terror it causes the fundamentalists, is purging itself into an understandable philosophy of humanity towards the bearers of offspring and of scientific preparation and nurture for the newborn.

The vision of these many phases of the welfare program is at the dawning in our rapidly developing national consciousness. The profession of social work is certain to meet its greatest trial, not in the backwardness of the public to follow and appreciate its methods, but rather in its inability to interpret problems and methods to the people. The public does not know about social work. It believes much that social workers do is only a fad. It charges waste and inefficiency, and naturally so. Francis Bacon conveyed much in a few words when he said, "There is nothing makes a man suspect much, more than to know little." If the social worker had been as efficient in his interpretation of the problems of social relations and of the best known methods of meeting them as he has been in the art of his day's work, we should have experienced far less hysteria in the effort to meet the problems of relief growing out of this distressful winter.

And here too is the plain indication for the future. The professional social worker needs to renew her faith in sound method. She must apply herself in every sector of this broad field of effort, aimed at correcting wrong human relations and keeping the texture of society sound; but she must also acquire the art of impressing her puzzles, her truths, her plans, her philosophy, upon the understanding of the every-day citizen. Social work cannot be done in isolation; and only to the extent that the people know it and believe in it, will it prosper as a profession.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The Child Takes the Lead

By HAVEN EMERSON, M.D.

SURELY all doubt as to the vast and varied values of President Hoover's White House Conference for Child Health and Protection will have been swept from the minds of all the friends and servants of youth in the varied professions by its final session—the meeting of Section I, Medical Service, in Washington, February 19-21. That meeting will long be remembered as having assembled and expressed a greater body of fact, with its appropriate interpretation and practical application for the individual child, that most important personality of today's society, than could have been so related to our needs at any previous time in human history.

Truly doctors of medicine and others do agree. Never was there closer inter-professional understanding, more generously entered upon for a finer human aim. By their realities in action the recommendations of Section I will be judged in the year to come, but there can be no worthy differences of opinion upon the thoroughness, imagination, critical wisdom and kindliness in which the task committed to this section was conceived by the committee chairman, and carried to completion by the 350 committee members. In arrangements, in satisfaction of the participants, in the dignity of presentation and authority of the subject matter new levels of success in group expression were exhibited, as a fitting climax to a year and a half of labor for purely altruistic ends such as we assume no other object than our children's health and happiness could command.

Physicians and their teachers found common ground for thought and action with their colleagues in child care, the nurses, dentists, midwives, medical social workers, nutritionists, teachers, psychologists, family aids. Participating in studies and experience, each contributory skill and service was well repaid for its respective share of work and thought by the inclusive character of the final opinions reached. None was blamed beyond the measure of their unsuccess, and self-praise was appropriately absent. These professions seem to have succeeded in discarding individual and professional reactions of emotion when testing their objective experiences in child health, while what may be called institutional or organization jealousies and superio-inferiority maladjustments sometimes linger to mar social action.

With humility, and courage to advance in the presence of wide gaps in knowledge, and a welcoming hospitality to any colleague from other fields of endeavor who brings facts and plans for better security and more happiness to mother and childhood, the attitude of the physicians prevailed throughout the Conference.

The studies were organized under the headings of growth and nutrition, prenatal and maternal care, and medical care for children, under the chairmanship, respectively, of Dr. Kenneth D. Blackfan, professor of pediatrics at Harvard University; Dr. Fred Lyman Adair, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Chicago; and Dr. Philip Van Ingen, president of the American Pediatric Society. To Dr. Samuel McC. Hamill of Philadelphia, the effective chairman of the section, goes the credit of a masterly management of his spirited colleagues, and it was from a full heart that he in turn expressed the universal respect and admiration for the practical wisdom and sense of humor of the chairman of the White House Conference, Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, physician, teacher and administrator.

What will ultimately appear as a modern romance of science, a twenty-five or more volume serial of child life, can be but scantily sketched to reflect briefly the intellectual leadership which shone with selective penetration upon its topics.

Statisticians, anatomists and physiologists vied with each other and with psychiatrists and devotees of the basic sciences to offer us the viewpoints and methods of the specialist, to warn us against our too great faith in numbers by themselves when uninterpreted, or in words like "average, normal, typical, ideal," which carry little but the meaning of mediocrity. Professor Edwin B. Wilson of Harvard summarized much wisdom in his general considerations of growth and nutrition. He finds we can have no intelligent program of eugenics until we know what kind of people we want; and if we were agreed upon that point we should still lack knowledge of heredity to advance the race or family. Biologists must fill in many vacancies in fact before physicians and sociologists can do more than accept heredity, aid the heritages and adjust the growing child to its environment. That certain kinds of beings should not be reproduced, that the inferior are outbreeding the superior, and that voluntary restriction of births is widely but not wisely practised are equally recognized. The *coup-de-grace* seems to have been given to the routine use of height-weight-age tables to measure healthy growth. We are asked to be hypercritical of most of the group weight data offered us while there is still so little homogeneity among our children, and to begin the more promising collection of data upon the same individuals over their whole period of growth. We are urged to seek optima in growth rather than averages, and to remember the great virtue of simplicity of criteria, since intelligibility commonly decreases with statistical refinements. Special inadequacies of our knowledge are in the neonatal, preschool and adolescent age periods. As for the relation of child labor, war and other sociologic factors, we must confess that correlations can not be implicitly trusted, though the effect of unsuitable work on growth is an obvious fact in individual instances.

IT will be a shock to open-window enthusiasts to learn that health is not much affected by school rooms of this type and that health is compatible with wide departures from the optimum of sunlight both in quantity and quality. Both air and sun can be excessive and damaging at various child ages. The evidence of the benefits of artificial health lighting appears to remain a subjective satisfaction of light faddists. Hygiene remains, as in the time of Epidaurus, the way of moderation.

Interpreting structural measurements, Professor Richard E. Scammon of Chicago and T. Wingate Todd of Western Reserve, discard momentary observations of growth and arbitrary periods of development with respect to dimension.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The precocities of body system disturb a parent's conception of orderly growth. Changes of great profundity occur without growth; differentiation and metamorphosis are as important as change of bulk. We are warned of an infinite anatomical variation explaining many a puzzle and eccentricity of infection, as in multiple sinuses, glands, and the like. Formidable and fascinating is the picture of science leaping the hiatus between knowledge and ignorance, though the gap between knowledge and practise be even deeper. It was Professor Todd's special gift to add to the illumination of the inner spirit of man by his whimsical Scots philosophy.

IN measuring the individual child we are concerned with its fitness at least for the routine of life. We distinguish between postures and poses, poises and gaits, attitudes overt and covert, between endowments and acquisitions, the honorable scars of unavoidable disease and true infirmities.

Professor A. J. Carlson of Chicago, physiologist and international citizen, spoke less from the laboratory than from the forum of life. His slogan has ever been, "Use the known and discover the unknown." He sees poverty, labor and economics inextricably woven into the problems of applied physiology. On behalf of his colleagues he declares that the outworn tradition of a "three-R" education, and the lack of working knowledge by school teachers of biology and human function and structure, is the cause of their superficial effort at health education. He finds no economic excuse for hungry overworked children. He sees progress due to slow compromise, human reproduction not controllable for quality in spite of explosive advance in some sciences, as in nutrition and endocrinology. We are mostly ignorant of the nature of acute and chronic fatigue. We sometimes overemphasize our ignorance. He alludes to the medical profession as the largest body in our society with a modicum of necessary information in the sciences of life. To speak with candor of sex and to act with wisdom calls for ever more experiment and experience in mammalian physiology.

Dr. Douglas A. Thom of Massachusetts brings body and soul together, refuses to see the psychiatrist and behaviorist and their pals, psychologists, analysts, et al. alienated from the companionship of the family physician. He sees mental status broader far than mere intelligence, and the use of motor tests of great merit in judging early abilities. He sees the intellectually superior child measured best by achievement, for even hereditary advantages may be less helpful than nurture, personality and the government of sound habits, upon which actual behavior depends.

Professor Blackfan tells of that powerful tool for study of body growth, the x-ray; finds we now know enough to see our ignorance in nutrition more clearly, foretells the increasing need of liberal use of lower animals to enlarge and secure our knowledge by experiment, looks forward to an era of good teeth from good nourishment rather than by the toothbrush and dentifrice route, warns of school sickness, prevalent chronic fatigue of children due to monotony, confinement, disciplinary restraint in classrooms. He stresses happiness as indispensable to child health and inseparable from it.

The committee on prenatal and maternal care reports a sorry mess of present failures and inadequacies, frankly faced and in process of correction. We are failing particularly to protect mothers among the poor, the Negro, the rural dweller, as we can and must. We must medically train and supervise midwives of at least the quality found in Sweden and Denmark. Regional and local schools are needed to replace traditional and inherited practices with the asepsis, patience, anatomical skill of the educated midwife. Betterment of medical and nursing education in obstetrics is loudly called for to correct our acknowledged present mediocrity. Consecutive professional direction from prenatal period through to effective postnatal follow-up is rarely found in this country though essential for reduction of stillbirths, and a wide range of infant and maternal morbidity and mortality. Instances of perfect service are given but they are rare and not uniformly available for rich and poor, white and Negro, city and rural mother.

Women increasingly demand painless and short labors, response to which is associated inevitably with noteworthy dangers to mother and child. The woman's right to thoroughgoing maternity care is considered by the committee to oblige public health services to provide it where the family lacks the means. A most obvious task for organized effort is elimination of 77 per cent of the maternal deaths known to be preventable, reduction of the 50 per cent of gynecological operations necessitated by causes related to childbirth, and the 30 per cent of early infant deaths due to maternal syphilis.

In the reports of the committee on medical care for children we see the confusion and proper humiliation of the ragtag critics of medical practice. Here is a fine exhibit of the breadth of present-day conception and use of preventive and curative medicine. The most specific and productive preventive services are those applied in childhood. What we find described is a truly inspiring pattern of personal thought and action focused upon the individual child by the whole company of medical, nursing, social and allied workers.

FOUR of the subcommittee reports on medical service are of much importance. That of Dr. Bronson Crothers of Boston presents the psychiatric problem in understandable terms, giving the pediatrist the key position, and explaining the relative simplicity of the situation of psychiatrist and psychologist. Dr. Robert Osgood of Harvard gives a similarly direct story of body mechanics, what may and must not be expected from it, and the need for better teaching to doctors of its relation to health and character. Dr. Borden Veeder of Washington University takes the backward medical schools pretty well over the coals and outlines an adequate course of study in this special though major branch of medicine. Similar demands for better training of nurses and social workers are offered.

Lastly in time and of especial excellence in content and form of presentation was the astonishing record of preventive measures as they are actually applied among some 177,000 individual preschool children studied in their homes throughout the cities and counties of the nation. This report by Dr. George T. Palmer, director of research of the American Child Health Association, contains in itself enough of fact and interpretation to direct our thinking and doing for children for a decade. Here is the story of what is actually being done in the way of health examinations, smallpox vaccination, diphtheria immunization, and dental examinations for children from two to six in 146 cities and in rural communities in forty-two states. Health ex-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

aminations have been made for 82 per cent of these preschool children in Berkeley, California, and for 12 per cent in Roanoke, Virginia; dental examinations for 46 per cent in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and for 1 per cent in Knoxville, Tennessee; vaccination for smallpox for 48 per cent in New York City and for 2 per cent in Pittsfield, Massachusetts; immunization against diphtheria for 50 per cent in Niagara Falls, N. Y., and for 1 per cent in Butte, Montana.

The status of child health has been described. What is being done is now clear. We see what must be done to complete our knowledge, and our services for childhood. The committee of Section I is to continue on the job. The original planning committee of the Conference has been organized to carry on. The completed, well-considered reports will be published to urge us on to renewed efforts.

One has but few regrets in reviewing this Medical Service report. There is a natural surprise that with a frank and excellent handling of the (*Continued on page* 688)

A Possible Justification of Research

By JOSEPH LEE

FOR many years I have been unsympathetic toward surveys, especially on the subject of play and playgrounds. It always seemed to me better to do one of the hundred things needing to be done than to find out just what the other ninety-nine are before you do the first. The best research of a bad tooth is to pull it out. I am now, however, in the way of becoming partially reformed as the result of finding that I myself would like to know the answer to a certain question to which a true answer needs research.

This question has arisen in summer work on the Boston playgrounds and is something like this: There are in Boston between the ages of twelve and seventeen inclusive about 36,000 boys. This summer the Park Department—carrying out a scheme planned by W. Duncan Russell, director of Community Service of Boston and supervised by him in execution—had 4580 boys between these ages on the playgrounds, these figures representing not an optimistic guess but a card catalog giving the names and addresses of the boys participating in the games.

The problem to which I want an answer is: How many of the 36,000 boys would have taken part in such games and been benefited by them if they had had the chance—i. e., what proportion of the need was being met?

To find an answer to this question it would be necessary to ascertain at least the following facts: How many of the 36,000 were out of town in summer? (In connection with my old playground on Columbus Avenue I found that an astonishing proportion, about a third, had uncles in New Hampshire.) How many of them were selling papers? How many preferred other forms of recreation—swimming, making excursions to the woods and seashore, or other sports? There were as a matter of fact 1566 model boat and aircraft builders almost wholly of this age group, under supervision of Community Service of Boston. In short, what number of boys between the ages mentioned would truly represent the saturation point for the sort of recreation that the Park Department playgrounds could provide?

At this point the reader may ask (as I myself have always done in the case of other people's questions)—what is the use of finding out just how many boys you don't reach when you already know there must be an awful lot of them? Well, the answer is that there comes a point in any enterprise when you begin to sense the coming of the end and that this feeling of the end—and that there is an end somewhere, as the sailor said when he was hauling the ship's cable up on deck—has great psychological importance. Knowing where you are going and how long it will take to get there and whether you can ever get there at all makes the thing more possible, whether it is the discovery of America or running for a train. The doing of anything of any sort is like jumping a brook: you cannot jump your darndest unless you see the spot where you must land. You have got to jump *at* something or you cannot throw yourself toward it with all your strength.

And among the jumpers to be considered in promoting playground work are not only yourself and your fellow workers but your subscribers. They also want to know where this thing is going to stop and whether it will ever stop at all. The idea of getting somewhere is deep in human nature and has a lot to do not only with the desire to keep on but with the actual ability to do so. After the enthusiasm of first starting out, it is the end that draws. Therefore *respice finem*—if I may misapply such wise, proverbial advice—get your eye on the ball as soon as possible; but in order that you may do so you must first know where it is.

That is why I want research into the playground saturation point of Boston boydom in the summer. And I think the same situation of seeing a glimmering of the point we want to reach is beginning to arise in other cities or in parts of them.

Of course the results of such research, as of any study in which human nature is concerned, will have uncertain value. The saturation point of any group of people in relation to any form of recreation depends on factors that are both variable and obscure. It is easy to make those columns of figures and to draw those definite conclusions, of which our measures of human nature are so fond. The difficulty is to find figures that correspond in any way with the reality and to draw conclusions that are even approximately sound. It is difficult, for instance, to know what games a thousand or so of these boys would really like if they had tried them, and to find out the real reasons that cause them to come to the playgrounds or to stay away.

Nevertheless the study of the question I have raised, which I suppose is typical of many others (I prefer the word *study* to *research*, as the latter seems to mean a sort of cold roast investigation doing something over again that was done before), may be of value as giving us some inkling of the facts, especially if we do not take our results too seriously.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

How Big Shall a Big Brother Be?

By I. M. RUBINOW

STRANGELY enough, one looks in vain for any clear definition of the Big Brother movement and its underlying philosophy, even in so authoritative a source as the Social Work Year Book. Perhaps the omission is due to the inherent difficulties of such a definition. Presumably, the selection of the name of the movement was not altogether accidental. It is based on the somewhat naive faith in the sanctity of the natural ties between siblings, which the Big Brother movement endeavors to supplement. But the bland assumption that the fraternal relationship is necessarily a constructive force in the upbuilding of personality—which assumption lies at the basis of the ethical ideal, "All men are brethren"—must be critically reconsidered in the light of modern psychology of family relationships. As one cynical sociologist has said, "That is just the trouble with the modern world, that all the conflicts of the family unit and the psychologic attitudes developed through them are carried over into the outside world."

The relationship between a big and a little brother, even within a natural family group, is not at all simple. Many of us will recognize, or at least remember, unless we had weighty reasons to suppress these memories, how great the variety of possible emotions in one's reactions to older brothers is. At one extreme, admiration, the desire for emulation, with its possible stimulating effect toward greater effort, but even then, the danger of developing a feeling of deep inferiority when such emulation for some reason appears impossible. At the other extreme, fear, envy, rivalry for affection, and the damaging effect of various degrees of hate, none the less injurious because the admission of it is frequently suppressed in our consciousness. Seldom is either extreme found in its purity. Usually there is a complex admixture of various contradictory emotions.

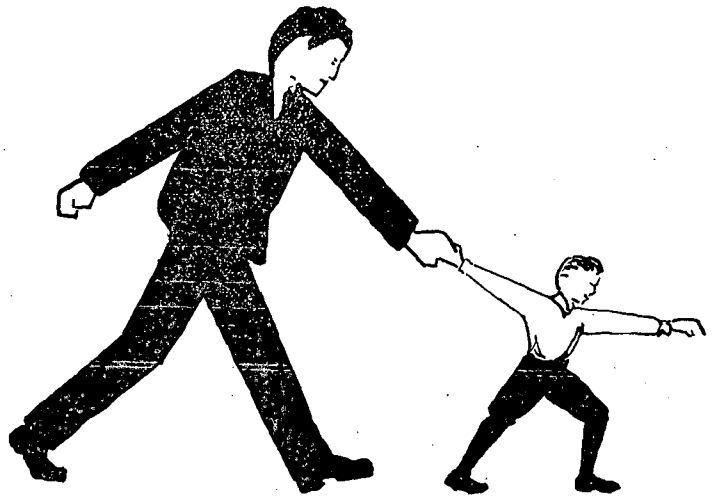
Of course, one may say that "a Big Brother is not really a brother and therefore these psychologic results need not develop." Yet the entire movement presupposes fraternal attitudes which we expect to evoke in the big brother and definitely try to create. These common attitudes of the brotherhood relationship are further colored by the fact that the Big Brother is selected and not inherited; selected, to be sure, by an outside force, yet requiring at least the acceptance by the little brother.

It has been suggested, perhaps somewhat facetiously, that children should be allowed to select their own parents. The suggestion may present certain difficulties, but the rejection even of one's parents is a very much easier matter. In a runaway child we have commoner evidence of physical rejection of parents. Their emotional rejection by an unhappy child is a very much more common occurrence, and at least temporary emotional rejection of one's brothers is probably experienced in the life of every boy. It is well to remember these things before expressing disgust at the lack of cooperation on the part of the little brother and losing any interest either in him or in the movement as a whole.

In asking the question, How big shall a big brother be? I did not, of course, have primarily his physical size in mind, though even that may occasionally be an important consideration. By selecting a handsome specimen of American manhood as big brother to a little runt of a fellow whose lack of physical development may have queered his contacts at home and school, you may only aggravate the very situation which you try to correct. But leaving aside such exceptional cases, considerable intellectual and emotional status on the part of the big brother is necessary for effective work and yet there may be very definite limitations to such stature.

WHAT are the functions of the big brother as generally understood? It is, of course, comparatively easy to induce prosperous, satisfied young business men to extend to an individual case certain purely material advantages, but modern social-service technique usually endeavors to eliminate such relationships in its big brother work. The big brother is not simply a male impersonation of Lady Bountiful. Insofar as material aid may be required in the family of the little brother, the agency is there to render it. To the big brother is assigned the task of certain emotional relationships and influences.

That is the formula, but like many other formulas, not always easily applicable. Surely, in a natural brother relationship the interchange of material favors cannot be excluded without damaging the relationship as such. A brother who refuses to take the needs of a little brother into consideration would not long retain his affection. Thus at the very beginning, the relationship between the big and little brother becomes a delicate one. In the alternative, between demoralizing the little fellow by excessive generosity and failure to develop a certain degree of attachment by a seeming display of callousness to the differences in economic status, both the agency and the big brother are skating on thin ice. It is perhaps for this reason



Courtesy Big Brother and Big Sister Federation, Inc.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

that an exceptionally prosperous adult may, unfortunate as it may appear, be disqualified for useful service in this relationship. The younger man who is still in the process of struggling for an economic footing may be much more acceptable, particularly if the little brother happens to be in a stage of adolescence, when he is struggling with problems of social inequality and injustice.

Economically, then, the big brother may be entirely too big. He may be quite earnest and sincere in his efforts and for that very reason grow more impatient with his failure to gain the desired response. It may not be his fault, neither may it be the little brother's fault. It's a circumstance which must be taken into careful consideration by the agency for it is very likely that it will be taken into consideration by the little brother in his decision, which every little brother sooner or later is called upon the make—whether he is going to accept or reject the relationship.

Intellectually the big brother must be of a certain size. I do not mean to insist that he must be an intellectual giant. Quite the contrary. The giant is likely to live with his head in the clouds. The vast interests which he may develop may be so broad that they leave no time or patience for the nice minutiae of personal relationships. The intellectual giant, they say, is always certain to make a very bad husband. He often makes a very unsatisfactory parent. There is no reason to believe that he will be more effective in this new acquired relationship, perhaps entered into on the spur of a sentimental moment.

BUT he must understand, he must be intelligent enough to appreciate the differences of economic, social and family status and the different results from such status in the make-up of the little brother's personality. He must be an adult intellectually as well as in years to be able to view his little brother's problems judiciously, but not so much of an adult as to have lost his sympathy for the earnestness and intensity of child problems. Please don't misunderstand me. He need not be a professionally trained social worker; quite the contrary, for the social worker, by the very nature of his profession, can seldom satisfactorily fulfill the role of a big brother. He need not be a trained psychologist, but he must understand enough of modern psychology (and there are a sufficient number of popular books to enable him to do so) to realize the fundamental principle that conduct, good or bad, that the whole personality make-up, whether social or anti-social, is not the result of moral perversity or original sin: that it is primarily the result of past experiences, of impacts of other personalities, and that if there had been nothing damaging or nothing lacking in such past experiences, the very relationship the big brother is called upon to create would not be necessary.

But even more important is the emotional stature of the big brother. Understanding is tremendously important, but understanding alone offers no guarantee of reasonable conduct. That is true of the big brother as well as of the little one. Of course such emotional maturity, poise and tolerance is particularly important in dealing with the "problem child." It is important for instance, in dealing with the adolescent child, for every adolescent child is at least temporarily a problem child, but it is important in every case if the emotional relationship is to be built up and secured. It means an ability to become interested in the petty, childish interests of the little brother when one may be confronted with personal, much more important problems of adult life. It requires a good deal more care than even the natural older brother must exercise. It means not only patience, willingness to give of one's time and effort, but ability to do it cheerfully. Children are more sensitive than adults.

Thus, the big brother must not only learn to give a good deal to his little brother but he must do it cheerfully or not at all. Few of us, however, are such expert actors that we can do all of this purely as an intellectual process, or even only out of a sense of moral obligation. I don't know whether the experts in the big brother movement, and I do not consider myself one for a moment, would agree with me or not, but I have always felt that no big brother has the slightest chance of success unless he needs the little brother as much as he is needed by him; unless the little brother meets some emotional need on the part of the big brother. I do not mean to claim that only the emotoionally frustrated adult can be successful. He is not unlikely to produce a disturbing effect by an excessive out-pouring of emotion, but there must be at least some residue of what, for want of a better name, we might describe as "affection," which he can give his little brother. I imagine that it is only the exceptional man who would qualify if raised in a family of a dozen children, but such families are not very frequently met with. Perhaps individuals like myself, the third or the fifth in a family, the youngest ones who have always been lorded over, may have retained a certain surplus of protective emotion, the release of which is likely to do as much good to them as to the little brother.

The big brother relationship, an interesting illustration of a desire to expand constructive personality relations, is not a toy—it's a serious business; it must be taken seriously by the big brothers to justify our demand that it be taken seriously by the little brothers and above all else, it must be taken most seriously by the agency. The selection of this relationship is a very responsible business; one is inclined to say almost as responsible as would be the power, were it given to us, to select and bring together the parents and their fittest unborn babes. Unless such selection is done by very wise and competent hands, the result of all the efforts may be either total failure or occasionally even something more dangerous: an emphasis of those very anti-social attitudes in the little fellow which we so readily undertake to correct.

Rambling Boy

By WILLARD JOHNSON

HE was a rambling boy
And you could never know
Whenever he would gaily come
Or go.

He was a rambling boy
And traveled where he would;
He staid at home or went abroad
If he could.

He was a rambling boy
And sought a mad ideal
That he could buy, or beg,
Or steal.

He was a rambling boy,
He was a ne'er-do-well—
And that is all of him there is
To tell. . . .

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Fourteen Firms Go Pioneering

By BEULAH AMIDON

FOURTEEN companies in one eastern city, each employing from 45 to 13,000 workers, one a public utility, the others manufacturing products as varied as kodaks and heavy machinery, have joined in an unemployment benefit plan to give their workers some degree of income security in future hard times. The concerns are located in Rochester, New York, and they have in normal times more than 26,000 wage-earners on their payrolls.

Before the current depression was widely felt, Rochester had organized a Committee on Civic Unemployment to focus community attention on problems of irregular work and wages and to bring home to local employers industry's responsibility for stabilized production and steady work (see The Survey, February 1, 1931, page 413). James E. Gleason, president of the Gleason Works, is chairman of the group's permanent committee on stabilization and also of the Industrial Management Council of the local Chamber of Commerce, by which the new project is announced.

These fourteen Rochester employers have already cut down their seasonal business swing by various stabilization methods, including sales forecasting, planning and scheduling production and off-season activity. They have even succeeded in reducing to a minimum the unemployment caused by widespread economic depression. They point out in their agreement that to solve the unemployment problem even more completely would be to their own advantage as well as a service to their employes and to the community. They have decided that substantial reserves to provide unemployment benefits in future slack times is the most hopeful next step, and they feel strongly that such reserves should be "voluntarily and independently set up and maintained by the industries themselves and not by compulsion or in the form of government insurance."

These Rochester industrialists underscore the fact that their plan still requires the wage-earner to give thought to the morrow, since the benefits provided are less than full wages and are paid only over a limited period. Some of the firms already have cooperative thrift plans in operation.

Under the Rochester scheme, the fourteen companies will build up individual unemployment reserve funds to which management but not employes will contribute. Based on its own experience and the degree of stabilization it has achieved, each company will put into its fund an annual amount not to exceed 2 per cent of the payroll until the unemployment reserve amounts to five yearly appropriations. Income from the investment of the fund will be added to the principal, and benefit payments after the maximum is reached will be replaced by additional appropriations at the annual rate. No benefits will be paid until January 1, 1933. After that date employes of more than a year's service whose average regular earnings are under $50 a week, will receive 60 per cent of their average earnings during lay-off, with a maximum individual payment of $22.50 a week. The duration of unemployment benefit payments depends on the worker's length of service, varying from six weeks in any one calendar year for those who have been with the concern from a year to eighteen months, to thirteen weeks for a service record of five years or over. There is a waiting period of two weeks. Workers on part time because of slack work are eligible for benefits amounting to the difference between actual earnings and the amount they would receive in unemployment payments were they wholly jobless. Employes receiving temporary work outside are eligible for benefits but the benefit plus actual earnings can not exceed the normal earning prior to lay-off.

The Rochester plan has an emergency provision similar to that of the General Electric's unemployment insurance scheme (see The Survey, December 1, 1930, page 245). If future hard times cause such a drain on the fund that, in the management's opinion, it becomes inadequate to meet the payments due, an emergency may be declared. Immediately all officials and employes of the company who are not receiving unemployment benefits are taxed 1 per cent of their weekly or monthly earnings and the levy used to bolster up the unemployment benefit fund. Such emergency contributions will be matched by the company in addition to its regular annual appropriation. These special contributions will continue until the company declares the emergency at an end.

EACH company's fund will be administered by a committee appointed by the management, subject only to the general control of the firm's board of directors.

The plan provides that:

> In order to receive the benefit, a laid-off employe shall report to the company as frequently as the company may require. A blank will be furnished on which he will be required to state what steps he has taken to secure employment. An employe making a false statement on this blank shall forfeit not only his benefits under the employment plan but also employment with the company. The employe must also register at the Rochester Employment Bureau. . . . If the employe refuses to accept work which he can reasonably be expected to perform, his benefits shall cease.

The firms have further protected themselves and the benefit plan by nine reservations, providing specifically that involuntary unemployment shall be the sole basis for payments from the funds, permitting the modification of the plan or its suspension if experience proves either course advisable, and making clear that no company is liable for the payment of benefits if its reserve fund runs out.

The last paragraph of the agreement signed by representatives of the fourteen firms indicates that they see in the plan even broader community possibilities:

> Time and opportunity have not as yet permitted the presentation of the plan to other groups whose interest in reducing unemployment and whose solicitude for their employes is second to none. The signers know these other groups will give the plan friendly consideration. They appreciate, though, that some managements . . . may not, because of other obligations, see their way clear to adopting the plan at the present moment. They hope however that in the end a large proportion of employes in Rochester will be covered by this or some similar individual unemployment benefit plan.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Public and Voluntary Defenders

By FRANCIS FISHER KANE

THE old system of assigning counsel to represent indigent defendants has utterly broken down in our large cities. With the ever increasing number of cases and the widening gulf between the general practitioner and the criminal lawyer, judges are finding it more and more difficult to appoint the right sort of attorneys to defend the unrepresented. In courts where the cases in one year run into the thousands, with twenty to twenty-five to be disposed of on a single day, sometimes as many as one-half of the defendants will be without counsel. If the facts require that the man should have counsel, the judge must ask a lawyer actually in the court room to defend him, or call upon a lawyer who can be brought in on short notice. The result is that in a large number of cases justice suffers from the facts not being properly brought to the knowledge of the court.

It is otherwise where the charge is homicide, for there the law of practically every state requires the appointment of counsel with pay. We are speaking of ordinary felony cases in which the law may or may not require the appointment of counsel. In thirty-five states counsel must be assigned for all felony cases, and in twenty-eight for misdemeanor cases. Some states provide for the attorneys' compensation, others do not. But even where compensation is paid, the right sort of lawyers do not get appointed. In the words of Reginald Heber Smith, the system of assigning counsel "has proved a dismal failure, and at times it has been worse than a failure." In several cities the judges and bar are trying to fit the plan to modern conditions. A list of responsible and competent attorneys who will act in criminal cases is approved by the court, and the judges agree to appoint counsel from the list; the attorneys receive the fees allowed them by the law, and a managing attorney calls in the approved lawyers in succession. But even so the results are far from satisfactory.

In a half dozen or more states the law either provides for or permits the appointment of a public defender, and in our large centers of population nothing short of the appointment of such an official seems to meet the requirements of the situation. Private initiative does not and cannot solve the problem; a public defender must be appointed to represent all those who cannot pay counsel fees and who require counsel, if justice is to be accorded them and the community protected. Anything less than that is but a tinkering with the evil—a mere half-way measure.

There exists, however, a very real opposition to the plan on the part of the bench and the bar in certain communities, it being urged that a public defender, whether elected or appointed, will be affected by political influences and that thus the very purpose of his appointment—the care of the helpless, undefended prisoner—will not be achieved. Consequently in a few cities, notably New York, voluntary defenders have been established who work as public defenders but are paid out of private funds and are responsible to private organizations. The work of such a voluntary defender will be necessarily limited by the funds of his society, but if he be an honorable and vigorous attorney and alive to the social aspects of his task, there will at least be an assurance that the defendants whom he represents will receive equal treatment at his hands and that he wont be moved to favor some at the expense of others because of political considerations. And by centering the responsibility in one adequately paid man, the society assures itself that the work will be effectively done. The practical difficulty in the scheme is of course the problem of securing the necessary money.

Chicago now has both a large corps of responsible attorneys volunteering their assistance and a public defender paid by the county. The Bar Association more than ten years ago enlisted the services of a number of its members to serve as counsel for prisoners unable to pay lawyers' fees. The results were none too good and in 1928 the work was placed on a more satisfactory basis through the cooperation of the Bar Association with the United Charities and the Law School of Northwestern University, under the leadership of Dean Wigmore. Under the direction of DeWitt Wright as managing attorney, the new plan is now in operation with over two hundred attorneys approved by the court. Young lawyers and law students also volunteer their aid. Last October, in an effort to relieve the congestion of the calendar, the judges appointed Benjamin C. Bachrach as Public Defender of Cook County, with an office in the Criminal Courts Building, with five assistants and a budget of $25,000, the money being provided under a statute giving the County Commissioners the right to appropriate funds for the payment of attorneys representing persons too poor to retain counsel. The result of Mr. Bachrach's appointment has been a clearing of the docket and a gain to everyone concerned, particularly, it is said, to witnesses who now do not have to waste their time in court, as cases are heard on the days set for trial. There has been cooperation between Mr. Bachrach and his assistants and Mr. Wright's staff of volunteers. The students from the Law School of Northwestern University have helped both offices.

IN California there have been public defenders in Los Angeles and San Francisco for about fifteen years, and the public appears to have been satisfied with the results. In Los Angeles Frederic H. Vercoe, the present defender, had during 1929, 565 consultations at his office and in the county jail, and in the course of the year he conducted 231 trials in felony cases. Frank J. Egan, the public defender in San Francisco, handled 1973 civil and criminal cases in his courts in 1928-29 and had 1352 consultations with defendants. But of course the mere number of cases does not prove that a defender's work has been well done, and that the hoped for results have been achieved.

Nebraska has had since 1916 a law permitting the establishment of a public defender in counties with a population of 100,000 or more. Omaha has set up such an officer. He is elected for four years, his duty being to defend prisoners unable to procure counsel, whose offences are subject

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

to capital punishment or imprisonment in the penitentiary. And he has certain duties in the civil courts as well. He is paid $3600 and allowed an assistant at $150 a month. Robert R. Troyer, the present defender, keeps in close touch with the jail and often gets into a case before the defendant has been arraigned. He cooperates with the district attorney. Often he is able to get clients to plead guilty to lesser offences than those charged against them, thus obviating the necessity of trial; in other cases he secures paroles or dismissals before trial.

In Minnesota the law since 1927 has required the court to appoint counsel when requested in felony or gross misdemeanor cases with compensation up to $10 a day. The law also permits the judge of the District Court in the larger counties to appoint a public defender, who serves for four years and may appoint or remove his assistants. Minneapolis has such a defender in Elwood Fitchette. He receives only $3000 a year, but it is a fact that there were over ninety applicants for the post when he was appointed in 1929.

Memphis, Tennessee, and Columbus, Ohio, have now had public defenders for more than ten years. Grover W. McCormick is the present incumbent in Memphis, and Clayton W. Rose in Columbus. Judges and others in both cities comment favorably on the way in which the offices have been conducted.

In considering the efforts, successful and otherwise, made through private organizations one naturally starts with New York. There in 1917 a group of lawyers organized a Voluntary Defender's Committee and retained a competent lawyer to represent helpless defendants in the Court of General Sessions of Manhattan. The Committee later affiliated itself with the Legal Aid Society. The work has been carried on from year to year with distinct success, until the defender now represents a very considerable proportion of the prison cases coming before the court. The present defender, LeRoy Campbell, enjoys the confidence of the judges and the district attorney. He and his three assistants give their entire time to the work; he has a well-equipped office in the Court Building, several field workers and a trained social worker. Nearly a thousand cases are handled by him annually with the complete satisfaction of the Court.

HAVING in view all that has been done by the voluntary defender in New York City, Mayer C. Goldman, ardent protagonist for a Public Defender and author of a book upon the subject, is pressing for the establishing of public defenders throughout the state. He claims that at best a voluntary defender, supported by voluntary subscriptions, can do but little and that there is need for defenders in all large centers of population. A bill authorizing public defenders will, it is said, be introduced into the present legislature.

Both Cincinnati and Pittsburgh have voluntary defenders supported by their Legal Aid Societies, and working more or less upon the lines of the New York City model.

In Cleveland the Bar Association has for some time provided the judges with the names of attorneys willing to accept assignments. The Association disapproves the proposal to establish a public defender, and the law of the state provides for the payment of counsel fees to assigned counsel. On the other hand, the fees paid assigned counsel amount to more, it is said, than the work of a public defender would cost. The Cleveland Press has claimed that while the county pays its prosecutor only $5500 a year, it paid a councilman, in a little more than twelve months, $6050 for defending four indigent prisoners. Defense fees cost the county $60,426 in 1927, $49,821 in 1928, and $50,706 in 1929. Lucrative murder cases have gone to lawyers who were prominent politicians. "Thus," says The Press, "does the county economize."

In Detroit too it is claimed that the cost of assigned counsel is excessive, and that "paying" cases fall as plums to politicians at the bar. Wayne County (Detroit) spends as much as $90,000 a year in defense counsel fees. Naturally there is agitation for a public defender who will defend all helpless prisoners, opinions differing as to whether he should be elected or appointed, but although the present system is unsatisfactory, there is little prospect of a radical change. The Bar Association has a committee engaged in drafting rules to correct present abuses, and a Committee of Judges, headed by the Hon. Arthur W. Kilpatrick, has been appointed to confer with the Bar Association on the matter. The court has an efficient probation service, and this, it would seem, makes the need for counsel for the undefended less acute in Detroit than elsewhere.

IN St. Louis, there has been a movement for some years for the establishment of a voluntary defender, championed by E. M. Grossman, and a certain amount of money has been secured.

In Baltimore, Samuel Rubin has for some time back been working for a public defender but the Bar Association has turned the project down. A committee consisting of Governor Albert C. Ritchie, Dr. W. W. Cook of the Hopkins Law Institute, Judge Harold G. Bond of the Court of Appeals, and Howard C. Hill, secretary of the Prisoners' Aid Society, are studying the subject.

Pennsylvania has no law requiring the assignment of counsel in ordinary felony cases; only where the charge is murder must the defendant be represented. The result is that at least two thirds of the prison cases are disposed of without lawyers for the defense. In how many of these cases there should be counsel no man knows, but the number is probably up in the thousands. The situation cries out for something to be done, and a committee of sixteen lawyers has been organized, with an auxiliary committee of fifty younger men, to establish a voluntary defender along the lines of the New York plan. It is proposed to raise a fund of $30,000 a year for three years, and out of it pay adequate salaries to a competent defender and two assistants, two field workers, one social worker, and a sufficient clerical force. The defender and his assistants are to devote their entire time to the work, and at the outset they are to confine their services to the courts in which prison cases are tried. Where a man can get bail he usually has counsel. The plan has the full endorsement of the bench—the judges have passed a resolution commending it. It has the approval of practically everybody, for while the bar does not seem to favor the creation of a public defender holding a public office and paid a salary out of state funds, it has nothing but good to say of the scheme of putting a voluntary defender in the field, responsible to a private organization and paid out of moneys contributed by individuals. If, as we hope, the necessary fund can be raised, a good start will be made in protecting helpless prisoners in Philadelphia and securing for the community a more intelligent consideration of their cases.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Drawing by Dorothy Owen

Brains Instead of Prison Walls

By GERTRUDE SPRINGER

INTO the murk of misinformation, emotionalism and opportunism that has long clouded New York's prison system has shot a new light. The commission appointed last summer to investigate prison administration and construction has brought in a report which embodies a new and intelligent prison policy and a progressive and comprehensive program in which are combined expert opinion, practical experience, and a large measure of good hard common sense.

The commission, appointed jointly by Governor Roosevelt, the president of the Senate and the speaker of the Assembly, was headed by Sam A. Lewisohn, lifelong student of prison conditions. Associated with him were Hastings H. Hart of the Russell Sage Foundation, E. R. Cass of the American Prison Association, Walter N. Thayer Jr., commissioner of correction, and Thomas C. Brown and Milan E. Goodrich as representatives of the Legislature. Julia K. Jaffrey of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor was the secretary.

In its essence the new policy proposed by the Commission replaces mass treatment and routine organization with a system of constant personal study and individual treatment and training of every prisoner. It is predicated upon the theory that "the primary intent of criminal law is the protection of the law-abiding public, that society will attain the best possible protection against the criminal by the correction of his criminal proclivities and his reestablishment in society on a satisfactory social basis."

Interpreting this policy in terms of practice, the Commission outlines a whole new procedure in the commitment, the handling and the training of prisoners. Into one integrated program it brings together as fundamentals the classification of prisoners and the reorganization of the various prisons into units for dealing with specific classes of inmates. Under this program every prisoner will, immediately upon conviction, be sent to one of two receiving prisons—Sing Sing and Attica are specified—for a period of study to include physical and mental examination and an investigation of his backgroud by a psychiatric social worker. His case will then be reviewed by a Classification Board which will determine his place in the prison system. The Classification Board in each of the two receiving prisons includes the deputy commissioner of correction, the warden, the principal keeper, the psychiatrist, the psychologist, the physician, the head teacher, the chaplain, and a representative of the prison industries. The report and recommendation of this board will be forwarded with the prisoner to the prison community to which he is transferred. At each of these transfer prisons a Board of Progress will be set up which will review each prisoner's case at least once a year during his term of incarceration. Full records of each case, filed in a central office in Albany, will be open to the Division of Parole.

After a study of New York's present prison population conducted by Dr. V. C. Branham, deputy commissioner of correction, with the aid of physicians, psychiatrists, and other officials attached to the institutions, the commission has concluded that for housing purposes the inmates of the prisons may be classified into five general groups: (1) the colony group, composed of those qualified for road camps or other types of housing under minimum supervision; (2) the temporarily restricted group, housed mainly in single rooms within prison walls and working in industries within prison walls or in groups under supervision outside; (3) the prolonged restricted group confined within prison walls; (4) the psychiatric group, treated in special institutions or in special sections of general institutions; (5) the hospital group requiring special housing facilities. It is estimated that about one fourth of the prisoners will belong in the first group, one third in the second, between one fourth and one fifth in the third, one sixth in the fourth and one in fifty in the fifth.

In the matter of housing the Commission wants "no more prisons of the fortress type." New York has already, or has under construction, all the steel cells that it will need for years to come. What it does need immediately to make the classification plan effective is a new medium security prison, the continuation and extension of the road camp system and the reorganization of administration in existing prisons. Looking ahead the Commission further rec-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ommends a new institution for defective delinquents, a new psychiatric unit, and a second new medium security prison, all restricted to a capacity of one thousand or less. The Commission is firm in its opinion that the population of a single prison should not exceed a thousand or twelve hundred at the utmost, but since the utilities at the new Attica prison are already constructed for a population of two thousand it felt obliged to sanction a medium security unit there which will put the total capacity within the walls at seventeen hundred. Hastings H. Hart, dean of penologists, objected to making this compromise and in a letter published as supplementary to the report, states his opinion that "the disadvantage of excessive numbers outweighs any saving which may result from the use of the excessive facilities already provided."

The Commission takes a firm stand against extravagant and elaborate prison construction and equipment and urges the use of inmate labor so far as is practicable. In all new prisons and in remodeling old ones it urges the inclusion of a segregation unit to which intractable cases may be removed, ". . . a sub-classification within the prison wall. In order that isolation may not necessarily mean solitary confinement for an extended period a joint exercise yard is provided in each unit, thus making each segregation unit a prison within a prison."

The Commission's review of existing educational and training facilities yielded a discouraging picture. To correct it the Commission recommends the organization in each institution of a progressive educational program adapted to adult needs to include general educational and vocational training and vocational guidance, all directed by a resourceful and experienced educator.

The Commission's report on the reorganization of prison industries and on the women's prisons is not yet complete.

The new legislation required to put the Commission's recommendations into operation is not excessive. The first medium security prison it proposes is already assured, with an appropriation of $1,500,000 and a site in Ulster County. The organization of the Classification and Progress Boards, the keystone of the whole structure, can be accomplished as administrative measures under existing laws. Fundamental to the new policy however is a change in commitment laws to permit flexibility of transfer from one prison to another. Important to its successful functioning are, the Commission believes, amendments which would modify the rigors of the so-called Baumes Law which makes life imprisonment mandatory for a fourth offender, and amendments which would restore the practice of reduction of sentence for good behavior.

But when all is said and done the success or failure of the whole new system will, the Commission frankly states, rest on the character, the competence and the wisdom of the men who administer it. "What New York needs now," said Mr. Lewisohn,

is to spend its money for brains and not for steel cells and thirty-foot walls. The proposed medium and minimum security prisons are comparatively cheap to build and to operate. Money saved in their construction must go into securing competent personnel for their administration. Dr. Walter N. Thayer Jr., commissioner of correction, and his able deputy, Dr. V. C. Branham, are fully alive to this fact. As they, with their technical knowledge and experience cooperated with the Commission in making its study and framing its recommendations, so does the Commission propose to cooperate with them in seeing that the new system is so manned that its spirit as well as its letter will be effective.

Towards a New College of Liberal Arts

By JOSEPH K. HART

"THE college student must be permitted to participate in his own education; there must be less emphasis on teaching and more on learning." Thus spake James Harvey Robinson at the Rollins Conference on the College Curriculum, recently held in Winter Park, Florida.

"The college student must take complete charge of his own education," said Professor Goodwin Watson of Teachers' College, Columbia University: "He must use the world and all that is in it, including the books, as materials of projected experiences, and he must be permitted to get his education out of his own projects."

"He must begin with his own experiences in the form of projects," said President Arthur E. Morgan of Antioch College; "but projects are wasteful of time, energy and enthusiasm. Rather quickly he should escape from dependence on such particular experiences and concentrate on the main task of broadening and organizing his experience; and this can best be realized by wrestling with the philosophies, the sciences and technologies which have themselves been organized in the course of history."

Traditional theories and practices were on the defensive in this conference but they were not either silent or silenced. The conference had been called by President Hamilton Holt and the faculty of Rollins College to get the help of outsiders on local problems. After a five-year experiment with teaching methods, including the use of the so-called conference plan, both faculty and students felt they were up against an almost lifeless thing called "the curriculum." What could be done with this enormous mass of organized knowledge that never moves, except to grow larger? Before this curriculum, teachers are usually more helpless than students; students—at least some students—can laugh at its pretensions; but the faculty has to take the thing seriously. It's no joke!

An official committee of the Rollins faculty had set things moving in May 1930, and again in January 1931, but in a somewhat reverse direction. A minority report from this same committee protested vigorously. A report from a student committee appointed by President Holt, carried the war into the conservatives' territory. A fourth series of arguments presented by an unofficial faculty-student committee brought all the belligerants out into the open. Rollins might easily have become four different colleges; but how could she become and remain *one* college?

There were many questions: Can we make a curriculum that will be varied and flexible enough to meet the wide range of student interests? What part should the "interests of the

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

students" play in determining the program of the college? If they may play some part, can curricular materials be found that will respond freely to these student interests? Can we throw formalisms overboard and still keep some assurance that, within a term of years or a range of experiences, the students will come through not with a lot of personal eccentricities, nor with memory loads of useless information, but with developed personality, intellectual discipline, the power of judging in some significant area of experience, chastened sensitivity to values—in short, with an education? Having raised these questions to the level of heat, Rollins decided it were better to look elsewhere for light: so the conference was called. A week is not long enough to go deeply into education and then hold fast all that may be uncovered. But certain tentative conclusions emerged.

Though the conference was called specifically to consider the college curriculum, it early became obvious that any change in curricular matters implies and will compel readjustments with the schools that come before and that follow the college years, as well as changes in the methods of teaching and administering the new program. Hence the discussions and the findings gathered about five fairly distinct aspects of the total situation, namely: the purposes of the liberal arts college and its place in the educational organization; the interests of the students and the part these should play in determining the program of the college; the curriculum itself; teaching methods, teachers and teacher training, and the administration of the new college; and finally the problem of appraisals of work done within the college years and at the conclusion of the course.

GREAT diversity of opinion developed with respect to most of these issues. But "Education today is a dilemma," said President Morgan. Why not recognize that fact and present the findings not as a series of compromises which no one believed, but as a series of inclusive antitheses within which the still unsolved problems of education are to be found?

A stenotype report of the conference edited by James Harvey Robinson and John Palmer Gavit will presently be available. The findings of the various sub-committees have been made partially available in press reports. It is impossible to give them in full here, but in the next five paragraphs samplings (summaries, not verbatim quotations) illustrate the five reports.

The liberal arts college stands between the lower schools on the one hand, and the graduate, professional and vocational schools on the other—all of these being surrounded by the American community which is absorbed, perhaps lost, in business, industry, politics, sports and religion and which wants its education ready-made, up to date and "over the counter." If we are to continue to have a liberal arts college it will have to find its place in our civilization; if indeed our civilization is to endure and fulfill its earlier promise, the college of the free mind must make a place for itself. American education must learn how to make our problems the means of training, the solvers of those problems; science is not something that is put into a problem—it is something that comes of the analysis of problems.

Most of the immediate interests of young people are accidental, casual, often lop-sided—the indices of local and temporary experience. Education must of course begin with these; but it must understand them, criticise them by means of real experiences provided for the students, change and develop them until they become real, and find their completion in joining some phase of the great human enterprise—including the enterprise of criticising intelligently all going human concerns and learning how to invent better concerns.

FOR centuries the curriculum has been made of organized subject matter. That is eminently proper in a society that is organized. But the world today is enormously disorganized. "Required" courses derived from obsolete cultures are an anachronism. There is not a single required course in American colleges that is required at all colleges! The curriculum must increasingly respond to the problematic aspects of our life. The sense of reality must be got back into student activities. The curriculum must become increasingly a congeries of interesting, projective experiences—just as it is in any real laboratory. A curriculum is not something in its own right; it is the promise of eventual understanding, participation in the world of learning, the discipline of judgment. Such a curriculum may be difficult to grasp but it is no more difficult than is the modern world at large.

The task of the teacher is limited at one extreme by the need of recognizing and cultivating the interests of students and at the other, by the demand for a rigorous inculcation of organized knowledge, whether the individual likes it or not. Between these two limits, what shall the teacher do? Shall he weight these two "values," 40-60, 50-50, 60-40? At any rate, it seems inescapable that the teacher who can see only one of these two limits has no business to be dealing with youth. Antiquated regulations, antique divisions between subject matters, militaristic deans and other administrative officials, and all the retinue of clerks and petty figureheads who come eventually to believe that the college exists so that their mechanisms can operate, will probably have to be tolerated until something better can be found to take their places. But something better must be found—if we are to have a college of the free mind in America.

Finally the test of an education must be not time spent, or courses taken, but individual accomplishment. The highest incentives of the real world must somehow be got into the college; and students must be stimulated to make greater demands upon themselves than they now make, and more realistic demands than most college faculties now make or perhaps know how to make. The fact that the college is dealing with intellectual, moral and spiritual interests does not warrant either the student or the teacher in assuming that appraisals are immaterial. The college must accept the responsibility of helping the student make adjustments which will discover to him the widest possible avenues of personal development and enable him to appraise his development in broad social perspectives.

These are, more or less paraphrased, the findings of the various sub-committees—the total report of the five committees running to more than five thousand words. Do these findings seem to include only the things that everyone already knows? Well, it would be a great gain to have the problems of education set down within the definite limits of profitable discussion. John Dewey closed the conference with two stories which indicate those limits. One of the stories tells of a pioneer who undertook to drive a swarm of bees across the open prairie from his old home to a new home in a distant state. The other tells of Sambo who, when asked where he was going, replied: "I ain't gwine. I's been where I's gwine."

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Health, a Family Problem

By MARY B. GILSON

SOMEWHERE in William James's essay on The Levels of Efficiency we are told that we do not begin to attain our potential intellectual development. Two British doctors[1] now insist that we do not even approach our physical capacity, that a great source of unexpressed power in man is yet untapped. If Marcus Aurelius's dictum, "To be convincing, be convinced yourself," is correct, then the forthright, enthusiastic, *convinced* manner of these doctors in presenting their material ought to be convincing to the most skeptical. Their thesis is that Homo sapiens, man, conscious of his power, is capable of responsible and controlled action; that man can triumph over himself. To what end? To the end of health. Through the human organism, through the child, "challenged with the selection and construction of his own future," man can shape his own destiny. Nor is this thesis born of tenuous theory. It is, on the contrary, first-hand experience. The book reveals common sense and understanding as the point of departure for the courageous, virile plan proposed as a first-line attack on the problem of improving the health of human beings.

In April 1926, the Pioneer Health Centre was opened in Peckham, in the midst of a densely populated workingmen's district. The staff consisted of a resident medical officer, a social secretary and a housekeeper, all of whom lived in the small house which was the "Centre." Families in the neighborhood were invited to join a Family Club for which privilege the small weekly sum of six pence per family was charged. Membership insured a periodic physical and dental examination for each person in the family, the services of a parents' clinic served by both man and woman doctors, the services of ante-natal, post-natal, infant welfare, and orthopedic clinics. A children's afternoon nursery was also provided for the use of members. All services at the Centre were purely advisory, no disease receiving any treatment. The purpose of arousing an active desire to be healthy and of discovering the beginnings of disease and advising ways and means of procuring treatment, was made clear to each member-family before joining. Periodic physical examinations were required as a condition of membership.

But where does the uniqueness of this scheme lie? In the fact that the work is built on what the industrial psychologists call the "total situation." The Centre exists for the family, not for the individual, the family instead of the individual or the community being regarded as the biological unit. And the "total situation," family circumstances, environment, are taken into consideration in the case of every individual. Throughout the book the importance of environment is urged, the environment of the parent in its effect on the offspring, the impossibility of treating any child or any adult as isolated from his environment. Indeed, the authors stress environment so vigorously as almost to shake the "Fruit of the Family Tree" from its branches.

THAT the problem of the workingman is comprehended is made evident by the fact that the convenience of members of the Centre is regarded as of primary importance. Anyone who has had much experience with workers will know what this means. The loss of time in visiting clinics, the often too perfunctory examination by someone who has only casually seen the patient, the hesitancy of the patient to return to someone he feels has no interest in his case, all these are oft-repeated instances in the experience of the average social worker. It is refreshing, therefore, to read of a clinic which suits its hours to the convenience of working people and which succeeds in restoring the relationship of the old-fashioned family doctor to his patient and his patient's family. The normal, day-to-day contacts of members, who grow to know the Centre staff as friends, work to the advantage of both doctor and patient. Social adjustments after illnesses, follow-up work, finding work suitable for the worker whose capacities had diminished, all these are natural activities of friends cooperating with families. And the Centre staff are friends before they are anything else. Thus more than medical advice is given in this Pioneer Health Centre. Personal problems are discussed with the social secretary when, in the normal course of events, members drop in at the Centre. Here, too, the authors show real understanding of the workingman's problems, of his usual inability to make use of the social services available to him in his city or community, of his need for advice as to the specific way to find them and use them. These personal perplexities, these futile gropings which so often need

Courtesy Commonwealth Fund News-Letter

[1] *The Case for Action*, Innes H. Pearse, M.D., and G. Scott Williamson, M.D. London: Faber and Faber, 24 Russell Square, 1931, 5s. net.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

merely a little illumination from some person who knows the ropes!

It was found that education by pamphlets and lectures made people "knowledgable but not sentient." It was discovered that stirred *feelings* gave urge to action and that continuous individual contact with a better example furnished a sure and natural method for stirring feelings. Club activities provided ample channels for the flow of healthy ideas. Indeed, gossip itself was transformed into a constructive agent and by its cogent force ideas were spread in the club-room where women went to knit and sew and drink their tea. For example, a woman who had been convinced by the doctor that inoculations against diphtheria were advisable proceeded so to convince her friends. Down through the groups at the Centre, by means of this informal method, filtered the convincing arguments of one who was herself convinced. No lectures, no distribution of pamphlets, no attempts to coerce, merely a subtle way of eliciting personal interest.

THE influence of mechanization on the home, the threatening of its integration by the impact of external forces and the repercussion of internal forces, these too are concerns of the Pioneer Health Centre. And so, in order to enrich the comradeship of a man and wife, a place is provided where they may safely leave their children on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. But beyond this, and more important, is the attempt to awaken responsibility in bringing children into the world. "The time is coming," say these doctors, "when parents will no more think of conceiving a child in a home that is in any way unordered than they would consider taking their children to a seaside resort where the climate is conspicuously enervating, the drainage faulty, or disease rampant." Again, in relation to birth control, "The question is no longer whether control is necessary. Responsibility demands it." In order to make an adequate investigation of birth control, continuous observation over a period of years is urged. The Pioneer Health Centre, the authors urge, affords the necessary conditions for such observation by furnishing the means for constantly recurring contact with patients and members.

The influence of the Pioneer Health Centre during pregnancy is obvious. Periodic and free access to the doctor is afforded and the fact that the modest subscription fee to the Centre is payable weekly insures frequent contacts. Naturally, maternal and infant mortality thus stand a better chance of being prevented and the health of both mother and child of being improved. As for the infant, the daily, normal availability of the doctor is a great advantage, for good habits from the beginning may thus be instilled. But here is a new departure indeed, for not only the mother but the father visits the Centre and thus the child becomes a co-operative and joint enterprise! When he is older the Children's Nursery provides a field for observation of mental and physical traits and in dealing with them the cooperation of both father and mother is again sought.

When the child reaches school age the "total situation" is still important, this child who is a *member of the family* whom the Pioneer Health Centre knows. Advice concerning education is given. And later, vocational guidance may be offered with some intelligence because the child has been in constant contact with the Centre from infancy. When he becomes adolescent, defects and maladies which had slipped through the mesh of the school doctor are more likely to be discovered by the Centre doctor who knows the boy and has his confidence. The necessity for bringing young boys and girls together under natural, wholesome circumstances is recognized and a small hall was built for dancing, whist drives, and other forms of amusement. The untapped source of power in physical skill, mental capacity, and emotional urge of adolescents was not unrecognized by the Pioneer Health Centre.

THUS we find the authors of this vital book reaching back from the parents to the adolescent, emphasizing at every point the relation of the individual to the family, and the family to environment. It was found insufficient to center attention on the child, the child was only a part of a larger and more important unit. And the attention of the family had to be directed toward the idea of health, not merely toward the prevention of disease. In this way only may this creature, Homo sapiens, eventually master his own destiny and bring healthy human beings into the world. In this connection the authors remark that national insurance against sickness and accidents is directed toward disease, not health, and that preventive medicine has centered on preventing disease, not on developing health.

Out of all the experience in the Pioneer Health Centre the authors claim two main discoveries have emerged. One is that the scope of the present Health Centre is limited by its restricted field of exercise. The other is that health cannot be enjoined by charity. By the payment of a shilling a week for family membership in the Health Centre and an extra shilling for the privilege of intra-mural clubs the authors say they would be able to provide various activities in addition to the health services. These activities would include a self-serve cafeteria; a reading-room; a hall for debates, music, cinema, stage for dramatic entertainment; a gymnasium; a swimming pool; a dance floor; billiards; and a garden with opportunities for sport and exercise of various kinds. Experience has proved, say the authors, that the workingman is willing to pay. They claim that the facilities provided for working people usually divide instead of welding a family. A girls' club here, a mothers' club there, an evening class somewhere else, all these and other activities serve to disintegrate still further family life. At the new Pioneer Health Centre, the plans for which are so alluringly set forth by the authors of The Case for Action, the various activities, satisfying the requirements of young and old, would tend toward the integration and preservation of family life.

ONE hopes these dreams will take material form. Yet, as one contemplates the plans of basement, ground floor and first floor of the proposed new Centre, one cannot help wondering whether the far more elaborate provisions for doctors and dentists and social secretaries and recreational features may nullify some of the value of the original Centre, which lay in its modest outlay and its informality. However, with two such men as Doctors Pease and Williamson at the helm we can afford to discard our fears and give them Godspeed in their work of inspiring human beings to will to be healthy.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Flexnerizing the Universities

By JOHN PALMER GAVIT

BELIEVE it or not, the American people are not much interested in education. Oh yes, they talk a lot about it; schools, colleges, universities—it is highly significant that these terms are often used interchangeably, even by Dr. Flexner[1]—are, as Octavus Roy Cohen would put it, the mostest things we ain't got nothing but. Yet if you were to exclude from the student body of any of them everybody save those seeking education in any fundamental sense of the word, the problem of overcrowding and strain upon faculties and facilities would vanish instanter. In any so-called educational institution that I know of there would be left hardly a corporal's guard. And in the ensuing test of real educational quality and the drastic reorganization ensuing upon such a massacre many institutions would be deserted altogether; the major part of the activities of others would die of anemia or stark starvation, and of the personnel that goes by the name of teachers there would survive perhaps—perhaps not—a bare quorum.

What the American people are interested in and call education, is "practical" preparation for something in the future. Preferably in the immediate future; the shortest possible cut to "getting along in the world;" specifically to a job—in a word, to making money. Anything in the guise of education which does not or will not quite obviously and directly and soon contribute to or facilitate the making of money—easy money and quick, with good clothes, white collar and all that—is hardly worth bothering about. Along with this goes the notion that the reputation of having "been to college" adds something to social prestige, particularly because involving opportunity to make advantageous "contacts." There is to be sure a vague sense of a mysterious, indefinable by-product of "general culture;" but it is very vague indeed. Generally speaking, "higher" education as the American go-getter conceives it, is simply the final stage in "practical preparation" for what he calls "life-work." From it he goes out into "the world," chucking behind him all the stuff about which he has been bothered except such detail and concrete practices as can be directly applied to such a job as he may be lucky enough to get. As for the rest, he has "passed" it. The expression is exactly descriptive: he passed it as one passes whistling-posts and switches on a railway journey.

This conception of education has created a vicious circle; vicious at the center in its misunderstanding of what education really is; vicious in every degree of arc because each sector starves and warps every other. The colleges and universities find their alibi in the shortcomings of the schools; the schools are cramped and smothered on the one side by the restrictions and demands of the colleges and graduate schools, on the other by the limitations of the student-material coming from the homes. The homes, the parents, protest that they do the best they know how with the preparation for parenthood given them in the home, the school and the college. And all three are heavily conditioned by the demands of a world-life whose ideals, supposedly created, modified, inspired by education, actually starve, pervert and stultify education all along the line.

An outstanding phenomenon of our time has been the capture by that world-life of the machinery of education. It is against the consequences of that kidnapping that education in the sound sense of the word is now in active, vociferous and highly promising rebellion. Clear around and across the circle, in every inch of area and circumference, from the cradle to the grave and the cradle again beyond, crackles the movement of a new life. Unprecedented in history are the bulk and vehemence of discussion, of essentials, aims, institutions, methods; the experiments sane and fantastic, of every imaginable kind. Pulling and hauling hither and yon; old things and ideas discarded, inverted, distorted, revived; new things tried, modified, absorbed or rejected. And in the midst youth, eager, inspired, thwarted, spoiled, puzzled, disdainful, getting along as ever somehow, because and despite!

IT is only rather lately that the discussion has gone to the sector of the vicious circle absurdly called "higher." Hitherto colleges and universities have been rather taken for granted, no doubt chiefly because regarded from of old as mysterious, esoteric; grim monasteries beyond the jurisdiction and possible ken of common-sense. They guarded a seclusion of their own, with customs and traditions precious, ancient, inscrutable, derived like Holy Scripture from a sacred source whose literal authentic inspiration must not be suspected, much less questioned. But lo, suddenly it is discovered that the Philistines have somehow got possession of the Holy of Holies! The citadel of education has been captured by the mob. The ideals of "scholarship" have been supplanted by the slogans of the go-getter.

Against all this and its implications Abraham Flexner sounds a terrific blast. Under the placid title, Universities: American, English, German (with promise later to attend to the French), he discloses the extent of the inundation of go-getterism, the cult of super-salesmanship, through the foundations and into the very heart of the Temple of Learning. Formerly secretary of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and later director of the division of studies and medical education of the (Rockefeller) General Education Board, he has been round and round the walls full seven times and inside too. He has observed universities abroad, in England, France and Germany; spent a year (1906-7) at the University of Berlin—his honorary M.D. was conferred upon him there in 1929.

If only because of his prominence, and his long participation in the distribution of that largess which has helped to transfer to business the strangle-hold upon education formerly held by theology, his trumpet echoes in every corner, evoking emotions all the way from gleeful approval to speechless rage. Already his book is in a second edition; nor will the second be the last for here is an indubitably

[1] Universities: American, English, German. By Abraham Flexner. Oxford University Press. 381 pp. Price $3.50 postpaid of The Survey.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

important contribution to the discussion of American educational development; a voice more than sufficiently authoritative to compel "higher" education in America to look straight at its own excrescences and ludicrosities.

Dr. Flexner's volume consists of four parts, in the first of which on The Idea of a Modern University, he sets up a standard, his own modification of Cardinal Newman's; for he acknowledges that even "higher" education must change with the times. In the three others he applies that standard respectively to American, English and German universities. Like most other people (though with less excuse) he confuses the university, which he says "ought not to be even partly a secondary school," with the college which, however regrettably, must pragmatically be more or less just that, being obliged willy nilly to take up slack due to errors and inadequacies reaching clear back to infancy and "home background." He ignores, or anyway insufficiently recognizes, the way in which the "higher-archies" have cramped and distorted the work of the schools.

MAINLY, however, so far as the American situation is concerned, and hence all the shooting, his assault is upon the department-store conception of a university; upon any idea that it should "sell" specific training for all and every of the miscellaneous needs and contingencies of life; especially for particular forms of gainful occupation. Anything sought, offered or acquired because specifically applicable to a concretely foreseeable situation he denounces by calling it *"ad hoc;"* as if that *ipso facto* put it beyond the pale. He is funny, in spots screamingly funny if only because the thing described is funny; yet underneath always intensely in earnest because his appeal is for something profoundly fundamental which he thinks is being sacrificed. Sometimes scathingly indignant, as for instance at the near-fraudulent bunk in the advertising of some institutions; worthy, some of it, of the gold-brick dealer at his best. One can imagine Nicholas Murray Butler squirming and maybe doing something about it, too, upon first discovering in Flexner's book such as this, attributed to the home study department of his own university:

> The university gives assurance that from a material standpoint many of the courses prove a profitable investment in a short time.

Or this:

> Columia University now offers a method for home study in art that makes an hour at home more profitable than days of art-school attendance.

One hardly can believe that Dr. Butler's reaction to such stuff will be tempered even by the fact that Columbia's extension department (so Dr. Flexner says) "has made in a single year a profit of $300,000!"

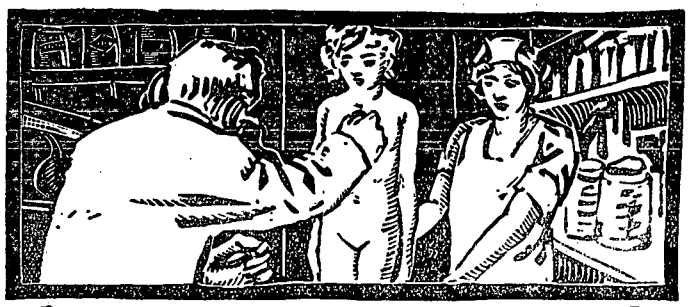
Columbia is only one of the targets for Dr. Flexner's scorn. Harvard, Yale, Johns Hopkins, Wisconsin, the University of Chicago, and numerous other institutions large and small, by name or inference fall under his barrage. There is danger that in the controversy and recrimination provoked by details, the essentially constructive character of his criticism will be lost sight of. For on the whole it is a tremendously substantial, forward-looking contribution, demanding prayerful, penitent attention, regardless of its justice or injustice in particulars. He essays to point out "absurdities that may easily be eliminated, sharp corners that need to be cautiously turned, preconceptions that need to be vigorously combatted, historic values that must not be sacrificed, practical commitments that can only be gradually shifted to other agencies." What Dr. Flexner really assails, lampoons, pillories, is fakery, trifling with precious values, on the part of people and institutions that know better, ought to know better, or do *not* know better. Cluttering-up education and wasting time, energy and princely resources upon things that have nothing to do with education; by and with hordes of people who do not and cannot know what it is all about. Cannot know, because of limitations inherent, or acquired through ignorance, negligence, malfeasance and misfeasance on the part of parents, teachers, social environment, from the beginning of life. Going through motions that mean nothing and get nowhere—fake teaching and fake "research"; bunk—there is no other name for it. Horribly expensive bunk.

He fights on principle and whacks at everything that looks like a head. Sometimes rather recklessly and without verifying his allusions, as one battling for thorough scholarship ought to do. For there are instances wherein his vehemence goes off at half-cock, leads him straight through his hat; occasionally he misrepresents by wresting phrases out of their context. He attributes to Mark Hopkins an alleged "dictum" to the effect that "an ideal college consists of a log of wood with an instructor at one end and a student at the other;" whereas it was James A. Garfield who said that, and moreover the instructor must be Mark Hopkins himself! A very different thing, Dr. Flexner, and going to the very roots of education, in the personality of the teacher and the fruitfulness of a spiritual interplay between him and the student.

AT this moment of writing I happen to be at Rollins College where abides the "professor of books" to whom Dr. Flexner (and others even less-informed) allude flippantly. I nurse the suspicion that this particular "novelty" —appealed for, by the way, in 1856 by Ralph Waldo Emerson in his essay on Books—might not have incited the Flexner scorn had the professorship been entitled Literature, Bibliography and Encyclopedia. I do not know how well this particular "professor of books" does his job; but if he is rooting his students' interest in books, authors, general literature as such; in the library as a whole, acquainting them with the philosophy of classification and the inter-relation of subject-matters so that they can thread the ways and byways of the treasure- house to find out what they want to know, whatever it may be; if he is inspiring them about the widespread geography and thrilling history of printing in its service to enlightenment and liberty, not to mention the bare craftsmanship of book-making—he is giving them something very precious and profoundly *cultural;* sadly neglected at every other college that I know of.

Again, in his scoffing allusion to Vassar's Institute of Euthenics devoted to the problems of the home as a center of culture, Dr. Flexner shows only that he does not know what he is talking about, having in his haste taken no pains to inform himself. . . . Cardinal sin against scholarship! "Euthenics" (hifalutin scholarly word for "efficient living") is after all only a title under which are grouped certain subjects neither new nor unusual in quite conventional college curricula, relating definitely to the life and functions of woman as mother and home- (*Continued on page* 687)

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



HEALTH

Controlling Colds

THE late unpleasantness of influenza and colds in various parts of the country lends special interest to the program for preventing colds now under its second year of experiment at Cornell University. Records of past experience show that about 17 per cent of the students have not more than one cold a year and so can be classified as practically immune to colds; some 60 per cent are considered average, with two or three colds a year; while about 23 per cent belong in the group of "cold-susceptibles" who have colds four times a year or oftener. It is on these last that preventive efforts are centered, since it is they who constitute and spread the epidemics of colds that appear in the winter months. In addition to the explanation given to all freshmen as to the importance of ventilation and a daily diet that includes two to four glasses of milk, two helpings of leafy or fiber vegetables, one helping of fruit and one or two salads, the "cold susceptibles" are urged to pay the nominal fee and take ultra-violet radiations once or twice a week from October to May in the solaria installed in the university. They also receive an alkaline powder to be taken internally at the first sign of a cold, and are advised to consult the family physician as to the need for treatment of tonsils or sinuses or the use of vaccines, which seem helpful in some instances. It is believed that this year about a third of the "cold-susceptible" students in the university are under treatment. Records for the first hundred cases taken under care in each semester during the past school year showed that they had only from 40 to 60 per cent of the number of colds reported by a control group of "cold susceptibles" who were not treated. The Department of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine comments that while this result is not spectacular it indicates that real improvement could be made in controlling colds in a large student group were the program to be applied to all who are susceptible to colds.

Rural Health in Massachusetts

IN an effort to conquer some of the knotty problems of rural health organization (see The Survey, March 1, 1931, page 610, Carrying Health to the Country, by C.-E. A. Winslow) Massachusetts has recently organized the Southern Berkshire District Health Unit composed of fifteen small communities, the largest of which numbers approximately six thousand inhabitants. (County organization for health is not practicable in Massachusetts because of the relatively large size of New England counties.) The boards of health of these fifteen towns have been organized as the Southern Berkshire Health Association, with elected officers and have employed a full-time medical health officer, a supervisory nurse, two sanitary inspectors and an office clerk. Laboratory service will be established in the area. Within the state department of health there has been set up a supervisory unit including a medical health officer, public health nurse, milk inspector, and stenographer to further the organization of districts in various parts of the state, while plans are at present under way for a second unit comprising fourteen communities in the Nashoba Valley.

Financial grants for the establishment of these first two units have been made by the Commonwealth Fund of New York City, which has selected Massachusetts and Tennessee for aid in developing rural health service through a demonstration of from three to five years. In addition to the district units and the supervisory unit in the state department, the program includes grants for developing the teaching of preventive medicine in medical schools, postgraduate training for physicians engaged in rural practice and a number of scholarships to public health nurses for postgraduate study and to teachers for special training in health education. Scholarships also will be offered in some Massachusetts medical school to students who will agree to practice in a small community for at least two years following their hospital internship. If the recipient changes his mind he is asked to repay the loan; otherwise not. The postgraduate scholarships for practising rural physicians provide tuition, travel and $1000 for four months' study in an approved school and course. "The Fund is not interested in making specialists out of general practitioners but it is deeply interested in encouraging study in various fields of general medicine, surgery, pediatrics, and obstetrics. In this way men graduated some years since may become familiar with the more recent advances. Thus is recognized by a great foundation that an informed medical profession is the basis of sound public health work."

Obedience as a Question of Health

THAT the proper guidance of children comes within the field of public health considered in its broadest sense, especially the field of mental hygiene, was the opinion expressed in a recent radio talk by Dr. Sanger Brown II, of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. Declaring that arbitrary authority should be seldom used and never abused, Dr. Brown warned that one should not expect judgment in young children beyond their capacity to understand and that to withhold guidance from very young children with a view to developing a sense of independence may be carried too far. Children of school age, on the other hand, should always receive explanations as to why certain conduct is necessary, while with adolescents all questions should be discussed with free exchange of opinion, the added experience of the parents carrying due weight.

From the Connecticut State Department of Health comes a new Child Development Chart prepared by the Department of Mental Hygiene for ready reference in the home. Arranged according to six age classifications covering the period from birth to twenty-one years, the chart lists the landmarks which a parent or teacher should look for in the development of a child physically and in respect to senses and emotion, habits, education, sociability, and play, while a final column gives space for a personal record. A foreword cautions that such a compilation can include obviously only the most general and essential points, and suggests that when a child seems to fail to come up to the standard thus set the parents consult the family physician or write for more detailed literature supplied by the Department.

Thrift and Health in Food

FROM health officers throughout the country come storm warnings that if the family's budget must be pared, economy in food cannot be effected wisely at the price of health. Concrete suggestions as to how to eat wisely though thriftily are given in a new leaflet, Food Thrift, prepared for the New York State Department of Health, Albany, N. Y., by Jessie G. Cole, nutrition specialist. From the federal Bureau of Home Economics comes a brief leaflet for the guidance of relief workers who may be called upon to suggest low-cost food

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

budgets: The Family's Food at Low Cost, by Hazel K. Stiebling, senior home economist, Bureau of Home Economics, Miriam Birdseye, extension nutritionist of the Department of Agriculture, and Clyde B. Schuman, director of nutrition service of the American Red Cross. The New York A.I.C.P. (105 East 22 St., New York City) has a new four-page leaflet, Nutrition Notes, published monthly by its Nutrition Bureau, price 5 cents a copy.

Where Nurses Are Needed

DESPITE the acute and widespread unemployment of nurses there are certain fields in which there is a serious shortage of qualified nurses, according to a recent study of the Committee on the Grading of Nursing Schools, surveying the practical experience of nearly 16,000 student nurses in 1131 training schools. Only one nursing school of each three studied gives any training in caring for communicable diseases. About 20 per cent offer experience in nursing psychiatric patients; 15 per cent, care of tuberculosis; 16 per cent, visiting nurse experience; 11 per cent, gynecological cases. Since these and other important services often are not included in the training of the student nurse, the worried relative who calls a registry for a graduate nurse for a diphtheria case, a sick baby, or a mentally ill person, may be made more frantic by being told that all the nurses free at that time "register against" such cases. In many schools which have facilities for various types of clinical training, the student's time may be poorly allotted. She may spend too many days in one hospital department, far too few in another. Of every one hundred students surveyed, for example, seventy-nine received more and twelve less surgical training than the National League of Nursing Education considers desirable. A major reason for these and other flaws in nursing education is the fact that students carry the chief nursing load of the hospitals to which the schools are attached. In 1338 hospitals 43,152 student nurses gave 64 per cent of the bedside care during a typical day, while 10,562 graduate nurses gave only 18 per cent. Work during training tends, therefore, to be adjusted not to the students' educational needs but to the daily needs of the hospital.

Bright Spots of 1930

IN spite of the dark days that prevailed in some other departments of life, 1930 registered the best record in health in the United States and Canada ever recorded by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Among the company's policyholders, who comprise a substantial portion of the total population, every disease, with a few minor exceptions, showed a sizeable decline during the year and a considerable number registered a new minimum for all time. According to the Statistical Bulletin of the company, "The low death rate for the year 1930 was all the more remarkable in the face of the unfavorable business conditions which prevailed. Unemployment, with its heavy incidence among the industrial classes, is not conducive to low mortality rates. That the country's health was not immediately affected may be due to the fact that the depression followed close upon a long period of employment at high wages, which made it possible for many families to avoid distress by falling back upon their savings. The organization of excellent relief work in most places has also retarded the effects of unemployment upon the health of families. These items, together with the favorable weather conditions of last year and the absence of serious epidemics, doubtless operated to make 1930 the excellent health year it was."

Great moments in a health officer's life

Annual reports from local health departments show that in 1930 Chicago established what it believes to be the world's lowest death rate from tuberculosis in a large city, 66.1 per 100,000. New Haven, Connecticut, wonders if any city east of the Mississippi can better its two years' infant mortality record: 42 in 1929 and 45.5 in 1930. New York believes that an investment of $150,000 in an anti-diphtheria campaign in 1929 is largely responsible for saving nearly $5,000,000 in 1930, contrasting that year's economic loss from this disease with the annual average of the twenty years preceding. And for a bright spot in presenting public health principles to the public, observe the annual report of the health officer of Middletown, N. Y., Dr. H. J. Shelley, from which the accompanying cartoon is taken, arranged and mimeographed as in preceding years by Mildred Dillistin to the tune of 20,000 copies.

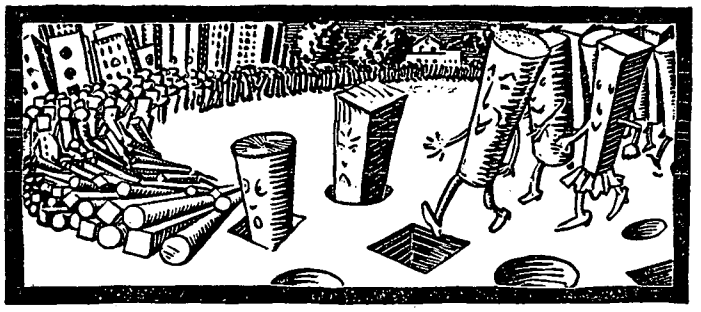
A Clinic for Family Regulation

MORE than three years' experience of the Detroit Mothers' Clinic for Family Regulation is summarized in an analysis of 1000 cases prepared by Dr. Max Wershow of the clinic's medical staff and just published. The Mothers' Clinic of Detroit was organized in the summer of 1927 at the suggestion of Morris D. Waldman, then director of the Jewish Federation, who felt it the "most pressing need of our industrial city." Made possible through the support of the Federation, the work is carried on in strict conformity with state and federal laws; contraceptive advice is given for medical, social, and economic reasons, and patients are accepted only by letter of recommendation from a regularly recognized social agency or a private physician. More than thirty agencies have referred patients with the largest groups coming through the Visiting Nurse Association, the private physicians, and the Detroit Board of Health. Of 986 patients accepted and advised, 66 per cent were Protestant in religion, 24.5 per cent Catholic, and 9.4 per cent Jewish, representing approximately the same proportions of these groups as are found in the city's general population. All the patients had economic reasons for desiring family limitation or spacing; 18 per cent had, beyond these, definite organic disabilities which made further pregnancy a serious hazard, and 2.7 per cent had social indications. Follow-up study showed results consistent with those which have been reported by the Chicago Birth Control Clinic and the New York Birth Control Research Bureau: that only a small number of patients who follow advice consistently—2 to 4 per cent—report failure.

If Winter Comes

THAT spring will not be long thereafter appears in the reminders that it is none too early to have definite plans for coming events. April has been adopted by the tuberculosis associations for the annual campaign for early diagnosis with emphasis this year on fighting what is still the most lethal enemy of young adults, especially young women. For information write a local association or the National Tuberculosis Association, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City. This year's keynote for May Day—Child Health Day—is "community responsibility and ccoperation," following up the suggestions of the White House Conference. Information from the American Child Health Association, also at 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



SOCIAL PRACTICE

A Check on Rolling Stones

IMPOVERISHED travelers afoot, ahorse, and packed into limping automobiles, have become such a burden on the social work resources of Georgia that, under the wing of the State Department of Social Welfare, the social agencies have set up a state-wide Social Service Exchange as a first step in systematizing aid and in checking duplication and exploitation. Five of the larger cities and some fifteen of the smaller ones are already cooperating, with the Salvation Army and other general organizations giving their support. In addition to the usual service of registering identifying data and notifying previous enquirers of new ones the Georgia Exchange, which is located in the office of the State Department at the Capitol, Atlanta, will prepare summaries of case records of transients who are known in more than two cities and will forward copies to all cooperating agencies.

State boundaries mean little to rolling stones, so Georgia already foresees the day when this exchange of information, if it is to be in any degree effective, must extend beyond the state and take in nearby centers on the main traffic routes. Chattanooga, Tenn., Charleston, S. C., and Jacksonville, Fla., have already asked to be included. An inter-city social service exchange is not a new idea. Los Angeles initiated a plan of that sort some time ago with half a dozen Pacific Coast cities participating, but Georgia is probably the first state to organize a state-wide service under official auspices.

Laws to Fit the Times

THE immediate future of child welfare work in Massachusetts and Illinois is now in the lap of the respective legislatures. Special commissions at work in both states on proposals for the revision of existing legislation have brought in their recommendations buttressed with the results of many month's study. Appended to the report of the Massachusetts commission, which was headed by Theodore A. Lothrop, general secretary of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, are no less than sixty bills upon which the legislature is asked to act. In their entirety they represent a general overhauling and tightening up of the whole machinery by which the commonwealth protects its dependent, delinquent, and neglected children, and children otherwise requiring special care. The revision was undertaken not because of any specific weakness in existing laws protecting children, but to bring them in detail abreast with advancing standards. The recommendations embodied in the sixty proposed bills do not therefore involve any changes in basic policies or in fundamental organization. They rather correct defects and omissions in the statutes, modify standards in line with present practice and generally strengthen the machinery of administration.

The Illinois commission, headed by Henry P. Chandler, has followed much the same plan of revising and strengthening existing laws but has gone farther than Massachusetts in proposing changes of organization and of responsibility. It urges the county as a unit of responsibility in child care, with welfare boards of laymen, and urges the extension of the functions of the State Department of Public Welfare to supervise, coordinate and partially finance the county work. It proposes the centralization of authority for enforcing child-labor laws and brings scattered efforts on behalf of handicapped children under the direction of a single state commission. Like the Massachusetts commission, the Illinois body has given much attention to adoptions, to delinquents, and to children born out of wedlock.

What Nobody Knows

WHOEVER talks of the cost of crime in this country, particularly in relation to the cost of administration of criminal justice, is talking of something of which neither he, nor anyone else, has any definite information. The lack of accurate figures has been a serious stumbling block in the path of the Hoover Commission on Law Observance and Enforcement. Figures on municipal police costs are reported in detail only in the state of Indiana, says Sidney P. Simpson, director of the Commission's Study of Costs. One state, Massachusetts, has a uniform system of accounting. A few other states publish total figures for police expenditures but no details. Municipal costs are reported by only 362 cities and towns. Figures for the southern and mountain states are particularly lacking, and county figures are practically non-existent.

With such meager and non-comparable data now existing the Committee on Study of Costs is seeking the assistance of mayors, city managers, and civic bodies of all kinds to collect accurate information which can be classified as official or public costs and as unofficial or private costs. In the first category it includes the cost of public agencies for the administration of criminal justice—police prosecution, the criminal courts, and penal and corrective treatment of criminals. In the second category it includes such elements as direct losses to individuals due to crime and private expenditures for protection against crime. With the assistance which it is now mustering the Committee hopes to have by midsummer figures that will be more than a guess.

Field Study Is Revealing

THE great gap between the best and the worst in juvenile detention institutions in the United States has been brought to light by the first year's work of the Juvenile Detention Advisory Committee of the National Probation Association which is conducting a two-year study financed by the Bureau of Social Hygiene. The study has four divisions: (1) A determination of existing methods for the detention of children, (2) statistical analysis of facts regarding detention secured from admission records, (3) research to determine the actual necessity for detention and the possibility of substitute disposition as evidenced by case study,

Courtesy National Probation Association

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Various Pamphlets

THE ADMINISTRATION OF RELIEF IN UNEMPLOYMENT EMERGENCIES, *compiled by Margaret E. Rich. Published by the Family Welfare Association of America, 130 East 22 Street, New York. Price, 15 cents.*

A discussion of the best practices, developed and tested by experience, by which relief agencies may function efficiently and swiftly in times of stress and strain, and may maintain the case-by-case principle.

CARE OF THE HOMELESS IN UNEMPLOYMENT EMERGENCIES: SUGGESTIONS FOR A COMMUNITY PROGRAM. *compiled by Harriet E. Anderson and Margaret E. Rich. Published by the Family Welfare Association of America, 130 East 22 Street, New York. Price, 15 cents.*

A central bureau is strongly recommended from which men may be referred to appropriate agencies for individual treatment. A case story, contrasting mass treatment and case treatment is appended.

SOCIAL WORK IN HOSPITALS, *by J. Newman. Published by the Victorian Institute of Almoners, Melbourne, Australia.*

A visitor looks over the American system and weighs its worth. His criticisms are not of the system but of its integration into basic hospital organization.

THE AGE OF ADMISSION OF CHILDREN IN NON-INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS. *Published by the International Labour Office, Geneva.*

A report entered for its first discussion as the first item on the agenda for the 1931 International Labour Conference. This discussion will decide the terms of the questionnaire to be addressed to the governments of the States Members before the second discussion takes place.

(4) collection of material for compilation of a manual on detention procedures.

Field work, which began about a year ago and has covered eighteen states, has revealed a most extraordinary diversity in conception of purpose as well as in administration. Some cities provide adequate and well-rounded service with recreational, educational, and health facilities as part of the program. In others the children are held in complete isolation with an irreducible minimum of attention. Records range from those which yield a clear picture of routines to those which yield little but an impression of incompetence.

Reports of the field workers urge the immediate need for a manual on methods and procedures. They found everywhere a willingness to do better but a vast confusion over how to do it.

Salvaging Runaway Boys

BOYS in the breadlines, boys in the flop houses, boys still in their teens drifting into the ways of the chronic wanderer —New York has seen so many of them this winter that it has been startled into undertaking a new social work project in their behalf. These boys, many of them runaways with stable family backgrounds, drift to New York and become stranded. There is no special provision for helping them. They are automatically cast into the big miscellaneous hopper of relief for homeless men along with the derelicts and bums of the Bowery.

A group of young business men affiliated with an East Side committee of the Charity Organization Society and familiar with conditions in "the backyard of Wall Street," has now undertaken to supply what they believe to be a missing cog in social-work machinery. They have gained the financial backing of five large churches and have formed the Homeless Boy Bureau with professional direction, which will deal with each boy individually and endeavor to assist him out of his difficulties, either by working out his home situation and sending him back, or by helping him to a way of life in New York more promising for the future than that offered by the bread lines and the flop houses.

Perils of Parking

WHEN within a week five automobile families adding up to thirty-two men, women, and children parked at the door of the Baltimore Travelers' Aid Society and asked what the Society was going to do for them, the worm—that is to say the Society—turned. It found something paradoxical in calling a family dependent when that family sought charity on rubber tires, and it began asking itself why the automobile itself should not be used as an asset in dealing with nonchalant rolling migrants. The Society got a lot of advice but not much help by correspondence with other cities. Apparently no clearly defined policies existed anywhere. So it then formed a committee of its own on Automobile Migrants, calling in representatives of family societies, the Automobile Association, and commercial credit organizations.

Courtesy Baltimore Travelers' Aid Society

This committee struck its first snag when it looked into the question of ownership of the itinerant automobiles. Many of them were not owned at all or so sketchily owned by the travelers that it would have taken a wise judge to determine property rights. Many of them of course, were fit only for the junk heap. Any policy concerned with them would have to be based on a considerable background of cases showing different kinds of ownership. To this end every car that now parks a new client on the doorstep of the Baltimore Travelers' Aid Society has its own case history taken and is docketed as (1) owned outright with proof, (2) ownership claimed but not proved, (3) partial ownership, (4) no ownership, car illegally removed from another state, (5) junk. As these classifications develop an exhibit the Automobile Migrants' Committee, with its legal advisers, will work out a procedure for each group so that the automobile may become an asset in stabilizing a family rather than a help to its aimless wanderings.

Old Age in Frankfurt

THE city of Frankfurt has extended its experimentation in model housing into new types of institutional construction. Its new old-age home, called Budgeheim to honor a large contributor to its funds, embodies many innovations. The two-story building of concrete construction is in the form of an H with the administration offices and common rooms in the central section. All the rooms for residents have air on two sides and face on garden courts. Each room on the first floor has its own little terrace on the garden and each on the second has its own balcony separated from its neighbors by a ground-glass partition with one pane on hinges for purposes of gossip.

The building accommodates twelve couples and 112 single persons. Each room has an alcove for the bed and generous closet and storage space. A bathroom is provided for each five persons. The old folk may bring their own furniture if they wish, though this is not necessary. Meals are taken in the common dining-room except breakfast, which is sent to each resident on a tray.

Budgeheim, though endowed, is not strictly speaking a charitable institution. Its residents pay 180 marks a month for board and lodging and are subjected to comparatively few rules.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

COMMUNITIES

Housing in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES has joined that small group of cities which boasts a private organization whose purpose is to raise local housing standards. Sponsored by the Municipal League of Los Angeles, the Joint Legislative Committee on Better Housing in Los Angeles recently came into being. A study by the housing committee of the parent organization having revealed that no housing laws had ever been enacted within the county, that there was no building code or building inspection, it was decided that the first step was to give the legislative side a thorough overhauling. In addition to the usual slum problem of the big city, Los Angeles because of its gigantic program of annexation of a few years ago suffers also from the "new slum" which is the result of jerry-built frame houses in new subdivisions. Underlying the program of the new organization is the sentiment that remission of speculative profits is the keystone of better housing. At the organization meeting six suggestions were outlined, by Pearl Chase of the Better Homes in America, as essential:

The necessity of studying the housing problem of the entire county as the city's problems are necessarily interwoven with those of the outlying district.

Immediate provision for the sound financing of the Association, for unless staffed by "an executive of tact and ability" and a "publicity director of wide experience" the education of the community, essential to putting over any programs, is impossible.

The undertaking of a complete housing survey, bringing together all official and unofficial records which have probably never been tabulated, correlated or interpreted.

An expert analysis of the legal status of housing conditions, not overlooking the fact that there has been a great advance in legislation through the country during the past several years.

A study of the relation of housing and delinquency, which would be a valuable commentary on the facts brought out in the general survey.

The stimulation through related organizations of activities in which large numbers of people in many parts of the county would participate and thereby lend their cooperation and support to the movement. In this connection a campaign "to clean up and beautify the community" is especially suggested.

The new organization, of which W. T. Gilliland is chairman, Carol Aronovici and George B. Mangold, vice-chairmen, and Benton V. Folor, secretary, has headquarters at 125 Marchessault Street, Los Angeles.

The President's Conference

LAST September it was announced that the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection would be followed about a year later by the President's Conference on Home Building and Home Ownership (see The Survey, September 15, 1930). Preparations for the latter were more definitely made at the meeting in December of the general planning committee. Announcement was made that there will be approximately twenty-five committees including committees on financing the construction and acquisition of the home, home ownership, city planning, subdivision layout, slums and blighted areas, reconditioning, remodeling and modernizing, design construction, home furnishing and decoration, fundamental equipment of the home, kitchens and other work centers, household management, home-making, business and housing, landscaping and planting, rural and village housing, Negro housing, and housing and the community. In addition there will be small correlating committees on standards and objectives, research, legislation, education and service, technological developments and organization programs, local and national. The committees on types of dwellings, finance, city planning, and design, of which John Ihlder, Frederick H. Ecker, Frederick A. Delano, and William Stanley Parker are chairmen respectively, are already at work.

Thus for the first time in the history of the country representatives of the many public departments and private organizations concerned with housing will be assembled to discuss their objectives and methods. Before the conference convenes the committees will cover the existing literature on the subject, analyzing the problems in their respective fields, gather additional data and make recommendations to the conference both for action and for further research. Such a progressive program should inevitably help to find answers for questions which social workers face in their daily routine and to clarify the subject and focus interest and effort upon the more fundamental ways of coping with related conditions of housing and of home life.

Full information regarding the conference may be obtained from John M. Gries, executive secretary, Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Two International Conferences

TWO congresses of unusual importance to those interested in city planning and housing will take place simultaneously in Berlin June 1-5. The thirteenth International Housing and Town Planning Congress, under the auspices of the magistrate of the city of Berlin and the Reich and Prussian governments, will be held by the International Federation for Housing and Town Planning. Two main subjects will be discussed, one in the town planning and the other in the housing field, namely the abolition of slums and the traffic problem in relation to town and regional planning. At the same time the International Housing Association (see The Survey, December 15, 1930) will meet. A rare opportunity for graphically visualizing developments in various countries will be afforded those who attend these congresses through an international housing and town-planning exhibit in which all the leading countries will participate. Further information may be obtained from Flavel Shurtleff, secretary National City Planning Conference, 130 East 22 Street, and Laurence Veiller, secretary National Housing Association, 105 East 22 Street, New York City.

Good Roads from Bad Times

AS the automobilist of the future rides smoothly over beautiful new roads in various parts of the country he should pay silent homage to the depression of 1930, for as one result of measures undertaken to combat unemployment road-building is being given a fine boost. The last session of Congress increased authorized appropriations for cooperative construction of highways in the federal-aid system for the years 1931, 1932, and 1933 from $75,000,000 to $125,000,000. Immediately taking advantage of their allotments in April when the federal funds became available, the states responded by increasing allotments for definite projects to $102,498,084 for the fiscal year 1930 as compared with $70,428,896 during 1929. In cooperation with the federal government on June 30, the end of the fiscal year, the forty-eight states had completed improvements on 9349 miles of highway with 9915 additional miles in process of being improved. Of 193,049 miles existing of inter-state and inter-county highways, 84,019 had been improved with federal assistance. On January 1 federal-aid funds available for new projects amounted to $144,725,776 in addition to the emer-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

gency appropriation by Congress in December of $80,000,000. That the United States is not alone in applying this constructive measure to ease the unemployment situation is evidenced by the fact that world highway budgets were larger in 1930 than in any previous year, and a further increase is anticipated for 1931. The United States, however, leads the procession with a total expenditure according to the most reliable estimates of $2,000,000,000 spent in road construction.

Philadelphia Plans

THE first report of the Philadelphia Planning Commission (City Hall Annex, Philadelphia) has been completed. Formulated by the Technical Committee in cooperation with Jacques Greber, French architect, who laid out the Philadelphia Parkway, the recommendations have been accepted in theory by the entire commission. Although frankly a preliminary report part of which will probably be modified and enlarged, it is important, for by the general application of its recommendations municipal improvements completed or under way would be coordinated. Thus values to the community would be immensely augmented. For example, by the creation of a suggested new thoroughfare not only would taxable values in a neighborhood which has become a liability to city and property owners alike be enhanced, but at the same time a link in a highway approach to the city from the general direction of New York and New Jersey on the southeast and Wilmington, Baltimore and Washington on the southwest would emerge. The principles underlying practically all the recommendations, though concerned with local situations, are applicable to other areas with similar problems. To quote a paragraph:

Any successful basic plan must contain a proper balance of rectangular and diagonal thoroughfares. As the diagonal streets are developed, they replace as major thoroughfares all but the principal rectangular highways, and the remainder of the rectangular streets become primarily local feeders to and from the major arteries of distribution.

Cooperating closely with the Regional Planning Federation of the Tri-State District, the Philadelphia City Planning Commission suggests a program the execution of which should be an important link in the regional plan.

Tailor- vs. Factory-Made

MEN may come and men may go but hand-made houses go on forever. That in a nutshell, according to architects and other students of the subject, is the underlying cause of the economical impossibility of building new houses for workingman. Exorbitant private profits may have an effect, but that, they say, is not the fundamental error. Their "discovery" is not new but the remedy has as yet scarcely seen the light of day. Two especially interesting discussions of the subject have recently appeared, both arriving at the conclusion that a far-reaching program of scientific research into cheap production in factories of standardized house units is essential. One emphasizes the commercial and the other the economic-social aspects of the question. The first is in an address by Thomas S. Holden, vice-president of the F. W. Dodge Corporation, delivered before the National Association of Real Estate Boards, and the other a pamphlet entitled The Economic Production of Workingmen's Homes by Grosvenor Atterbury, architect and city planner.

Mr. Holden blames the architects and real estate men for not having had sufficient vision to undertake such research. He summarizes the situation as follows:

The industrial age brought sudden and unprecedented increases of urban industrial populations. Where the individual efforts of village craftsmen had before sufficed to house satisfactorily the great mass of working-class population, a sudden new demand for quantity production of housing arose. The nineteenth century answer to this demand was jerry-building and speculative lot subdivision. The nineteenth century architect did not look upon the small house as his field. He was accustomed only to work for wealthy patrons and, in common with artists in other lines, to look to every century but his own for artistic inspiration. Abused by speculators and neglected by architects, it seems only fair to say that low-cost housing to date represents a common failure of real estate men and architects. Yet it is the field of largest importance and greatest opportunity in the whole range of real estate and building activities.

Mr. Atterbury agrees with the general thesis, saying:

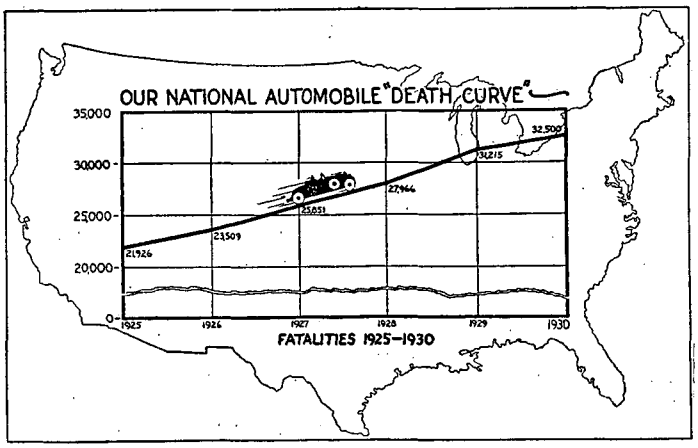
Under the existing antiquated building methods, mechanics at $12 and $15 a day can never produce a small house that is worth the money it costs. It is a "poor buy" even if the laboring man has the money to pay for it. Even at cost it is poor value compared with food and clothing—and many of his luxuries! The rich man perhaps could afford to pay for the waste included in the price. The poor man most certainly cannot, and it is doing him a questionable service to help finance such a purchase.

Mr. Atterbury asserts that a few years of concentrated research in laboratory, shop and field, leading to standardization and factory mass production, would eventually result in cutting the cost of building the simplest types of houses by 50 per cent and permit, with proper street planning, construction of houses renting for $5, $6, and $7 per room. His figures are based on experiments which he has conducted at Forest Hills, New York.

How else can many of the 40 per cent of the families of the United States whose incomes are $2000 or less ever hope to live in any but the cast-off houses of the more prosperous?

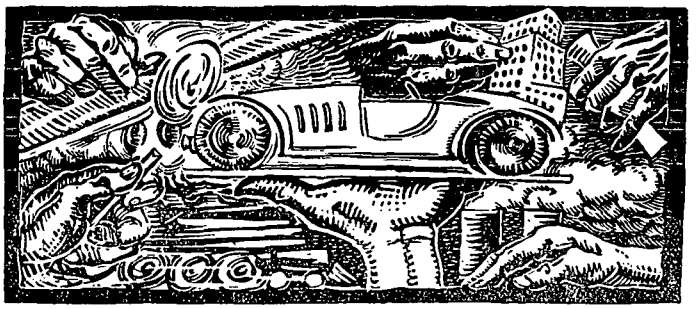
The Reckless Driver

IF you want to be safe from automobiles live in the city. Strange as it sounds, this is nevertheless true according to an analysis of the statistics for 1930 from thirty-three states and the District of Columbia. Sixteen states with a predominantly rural population reported a 14 per cent increase over the previous year of fatalities due to automobile accidents, while in ten states of mainly urban character there was an average increase of 1.5 per cent. The remainder, where city and farm population were approximately equal, reported a 7 per cent increase. The National Safety Council offers as an explanation the fact that the urban centers from which the encouraging information comes have license laws and require examination as well as minutely worked out systems of traffic regulation. Bearing out this explanation is the fact that in twenty-four states which have no drivers' license there was an increase of 8.3 per cent in fatalities. In the entire area reporting, covering 75 per cent of the country's population, 32,500 deaths resulted from automobile accidents, an increase of 4 per cent over the previous year and the highest number in any single year. This in spite of the fact that there was but a 1 per cent increase in automobile registration. But the picture is not so black as it appears inasmuch as the increase in deaths represents the lowest annual percentage increase since the reckless driver first ran amuck. Obviously the answer is drastic laws, rigidly enforced.



Courtesy Public Safety

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



INDUSTRY

Brookwood's First Ten Years

BROOKWOOD LABOR COLLEGE, which celebrates its tenth anniversary this month, is one of our few successful ventures in workers' education. Located at Katonah, New York, with a student body representing all sections of the country, Brookwood numbers among its two hundred graduates several important labor and trade-union leaders. In addition to its one- and two-year courses in economics, labor history, labor journalism, and so on, the school two years ago organized an extension division to give correspondence instruction to non-residents. Tom Tippett, who ran the famous workers' education program of the soft coal miners in Subdistrict 5 (see The Survey, June 1, 1926, page 308), directs this service. Brookwood has been the center of a good many storms, various labor groups criticizing its radicalism and others its "right wing" leanings (see The Survey, May 15, 1929, page 250). To celebrate the anniversary, a dinner in honor of A. J. Muste, who has directed the school since its organization, was given in New York City and two- and three-day institutes on workers' education are being held in industrial centers throughout the country. Mr. Muste suggests as the reasons why Brookwood has continued where so many similar enterprises have failed, first, its devotion to its original purpose; second, its "stand for freedom in education;" third, its "high standard of educational work generally."

Pensions for Wage-Earners

THE announcement by the Standard Oil Company of New York of a pension plan covering 45,000 workers gives special interest to Elements of Industrial Pension Plans, just published by the National Industrial Conference Board, Inc. (247 Park Avenue, New York. Price, $1.00). According to press reports, Socony will retire men at sixty-five, women at fifty-five, with pensions equal roughly to 2 per cent of their average earnings multiplied by the number of years in service. Three fourths of the cost will be born by the company, the balance by the workers.

In 1925, the National Industrial Conference Board published a report on Industrial Pensions in the United States based on a study and analysis of existing plans. The new monograph is in no sense a supplement to this earlier survey but is quite different in aim and method. It presents in brief compass the basic information needed by an executive who contemplates establishing a pension plan or revamping a plan now in effect. The report emphasises the trend toward putting pension plans on an actuarial basis to meet the burden of growing liability as the number of pensioned workers increases, and points out that:

> Each year's delay in financing an existing pension plan will mean a higher cost in the end, and it would seem that a thorough understanding of this matter on the part of industrial management should result in placing all pension plans on a sound actuarial basis.

Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc., are preparing a comprehensive statistical study of the pension problem under the title, Pensions for Industrial and Business Employes, defining, tabulating, and discussing all the factors entering into the cost of establishing and maintaining an industrial pension plan.

General Motors and the Rainy Day

GENERAL MOTORS announces the distribution of more than $8,700,000 to 20,000 employes who participated in the company's savings and investment fund of 1925, which matured December 31, 1930. Each employe who put $300 in the fund (the maximum participation) is receiving $414 in cash, representing the original investment at 6 per cent, and eighteen shares of General Motors common stock, valued at about $35 a share on the closing date, representing accumulation of contributions of the corporation to the fund. Each year a new five-year class is started and one matures. Eligibles may pay in 20 per cent of their annual earnings, not to exceed $300, the amounts ranging from $5 to $25 a month. General Motors contributes 30 cents for each dollar put in by workers. Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., president of General Motors, in announcing this year's payment emphasises the "unemployment protection feature," pointing out that every participating employe is assisted by the company in providing "financial resources to weather a period of business depression without the aid of public agencies."

Back on the Job

MORE than 4500 men and women disabled through accident or disease were vocationally rehabilitated and returned permanently to wage-earning employment last year, according to the report of John A. Kratz of the Federal Board for Vocational Education. These persons represented all types of the disabled and were retrained for occupations ranging from unskilled to highly skilled labor, including professional and technical callings. In addition over 20,000 disabled men and women in process of rehabilitation, were carried on the rolls of state boards at the close of the year. These figures do not include the District of Columbia, where vocational rehabilitation is carried on under a special act effective in February 1929. Citing the benefits of the rehabilitation program, Mr. Kratz stressed the fact that the average cost of retraining a disabled man and making him self-supporting is $250, while the cost of maintaining a disabled person as a public charge runs from $300 to $500 a year. The report does not discuss the effect of the depression on the placement of rehabilitated workers, nor the job tenure of these handicapped men and women at a time when young, vigorous, highly trained people are unable to find any sort of employment.

Shielding Child Workers

CHANGES to tighten the administration of child labor legislation are included in the report of the Commission on Laws Relating to Children recently submitted to the Massachusetts legislature. The legislature also has before it this year a proposal for raising the compulsory school attendance age from 14 to 16 years, and a bill, presented by the State Department of Education, which would raise the age for employing minors in industry from 14 to 15.

Pointing out that during the last quarter of 1930, only 3346 boys and girls out of 13,435 who applied at free employment offices in New York City got jobs, the Vocational Service for Juniors has undertaken a "back to school" drive and a "stay in school" campaign. Money is being raised to provide grants of $6 a week to children chosen from job applicants at the ten placement offices for juniors in the city. Twenty-five boys and girls of high school age returned to school February 2 on these emergency grants. More than two hundred volunteers who

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

know the desperate conditions confronting inexperienced young wage-earners are giving brief talks in school assemblies, urging pupils to keep out of a labor market which has no jobs for them, and 45,000 dodgers carrying the same appeal are being distributed in grade and junior high schools, to be read and taken home.

Courtesy Massachusetts Child Labor Committee

Danville

WHEN the United Textile Workers of America announced the end of the strike at Danville, Virginia, C. W. Bollick, one of their organizers, presented to a mass meeting of the workers an agreement alleged to have been entered into by representatives of the employes and the management. H. R. Fitzgerald, president of the mills, promptly denied that the mill management had entered into an agreement "directly or indirectly, with any organization, individuals, or group of individuals," and asserted that the mills were under no obligation to give jobs to the strikers. The more radical labor press, commenting on the end of the strike, insists that after nearly five months of struggle against anti-union discrimination, speed-up and wage cuts, the strikers were forced to capitulate without having gained a point. Mr. Fitzgerald's promise not to discriminate against union workers in the mills, made to H. W. Morgan, president of the Great Valley Coal Company, who acted as the strikers' intermediary with the mill management, was not a recognition of the union, and does not necessarily apply to those asking to be taken back, after having been on strike. The Federated Press correspondent stated that "the biggest factor in the strikers' decision to return was the lack of funds with which to continue the struggle." The Danville strike has been generally regarded as a test of A. F. of L. leadership in the southern textile area.

Dealing With Unemployment

CALIFORNIA has followed the lead of New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio in setting up a state commission "to study the question of unemployment and formulate measures for its solution." The plan was submitted to Governor Rolph in a report from the State Unemployment Committee, of which Will J. French has served as general chairman, with O. K. Cushing as chairman of the northern group and Harry J. Bauer of the southern group. The committee also drafted an act to create such a commission. At the governor's urging, the legislature passed the bill as an emergency measure, and it was at once approved. The state commission, to be made up of five members appointed by the governor, is given power to appoint and fix the salary of "a secretary and such experts and other employes as shall be deemed necessary," and is instructed to make surveys, studies and investigation of unemployment problems "with a view to formulating such plans and recommending such legislation as will enable the state to take the proper steps toward the solution of any such problems." The commission has an appropriation of $50,000 to cover the expenses of its work.

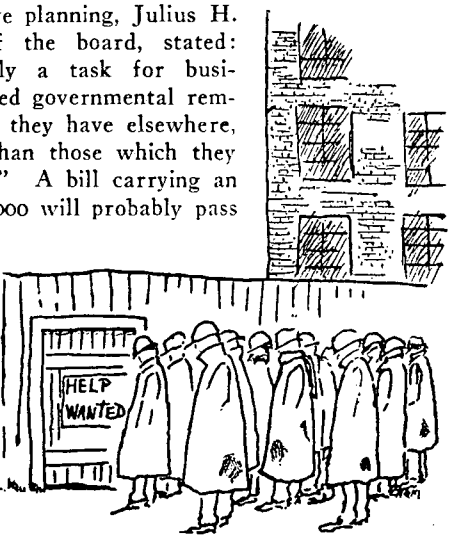
More than 1400 California employers, with about 350,000 workers on their payrolls have pledged their cooperation to the state unemployment committee. To this end they have agreed: to eliminate all overtime work by giving employment to additional workers when overtime is unavoidable; to make all needed repairs and plant overhauling immediately; to assure their employes of the security of their jobs, when no reductions in working force are contemplated; to divide the work among all employes, by reducing the working time per day or per week, or by alternating lay-offs, when it becomes necessary to reduce output.

John P. Troxell has gone to Baltimore, as full-time, salaried director of the Employment Stabilization Commission. He has been a member of the economics departments of the Universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Kentucky, and was for several years district manager of the Shoe Workers' Protective Union at Haverhill, Massachusetts. The commission has published a pamphlet outlining the program of work it has set itself for several years. Current activities include, Mr. Troxell writes, "an effort to increase employment opportunities in Baltimore. . . . A number of the large concerns have loaned us their personnel managers to do this plant-to-plant canvass; the start of a program of statistical investigation of employment irregularity in Baltimore; a series of conferences by industries, led in each case by an employer who has achieved some success in stabilization."

The New York State Department of Labor has announced the appointment of Jess T. Hopkins as director of the public employment office laboratory in Rochester (see The Survey, February 1, page 473). Plans for the demonstration are well along and it is expected that the office will open this month. Mr. Hopkins was for fifteen years with the international committee and the foreign department of the Y. M. C. A. He later acted as personnel director of the Central Hudson Gas and Electric Company.

The North Carolina State Council on Unemployment and Relief, appointed by Governor Gardner in December, has organized an intensive campaign in the hundred counties of the state to form local unemployment councils. A rapid survey of conditions is made in each county. The local groups have the two-fold job of setting up "made-work" programs and arranging to supply supplementary material relief where it is required. "Service bureaus" to register the unemployed, and to act as placement offices are being opened by the local councils. Through the state board of health, the state council is listing all cities and towns ordered to provide sewage disposal plants, and notifying the local councils in these communities. The state highway commission is recommending work in sections where jobs need to be done, and the number of the jobless is high. The state-wide building-trades organization is to meet shortly with the state council, to canvass the building situation, public and private, in the state.

A committee of business executives and economists is being organized by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to devise a program which will cut down the seasonal and cyclical swings of production, and of employment. At this writing, the membership of the committee has not been announced. In announcing this effort to large-scale, cooperative planning, Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the board, stated: "This is preeminently a task for business. . . . Ill conceived governmental remedies might easily, as they have elsewhere, lead to greater ills than those which they are intended to cure." A bill carrying an appropriation of $50,000 will probably pass the New York legislature, putting into effect in part the suggestion of Governor Roosevelt that a commission be set up to study compulsory and voluntary unemployment insurance and submit a detailed report to the next legislature.



Courtesy Information Bureau on Womens' Work, Cleveland

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

EDUCATION

Close of an Experiment

WISCONSIN'S Experimental College, one of the most widely known attempts to apply "new" school theories and techniques to higher education in this country, will finish its program in June 1932, if the recommendation of the advisory board of the University is adopted. The discontinuance was suggested by Alexander Meiklejohn, its director. Dr. Meiklejohn, formerly president of Amherst, planned the college as an educational laboratory at the request of Glenn Frank, head of the University, organizing it as a separate unit on the campus. Its work covered the first two college years, after which the students were transferred to regular university departments. Each year's work centered in the civilization of a chosen historical period and the student carried forward his program by independent study and research, with frequent tutorial conferences, rather than by usual classroom procedures (see The Survey, June 1, 1927, page 268). Dr. Meiklejohn feels that the time has come for the university faculty to study the results obtained, and to decide whether to reopen the college, modify its plan, or give up educational experiment in the laboratory sense.

The faculty and regents have already carried over to the University some of the results of the experiment. Under the curriculum modification adopted last year, "unqualified" students will not be permitted to continue beyond the sophomore year and selected upper classmen will be allowed to work independently. Further, a sophomore course "intended to attack the problems of pure human thought" is recommended, under the direction of the departments of philosophy, economics, and political science, with methods "adapted from those used in the experimental college."

A Peace Project

FOR the sake of better international feeling, two university professors have put forward a War-debt Scholarship plan which merits wide discussion as a peace project. The authors of the scheme are Philip G. Neserius of the University of New Hampshire and Emerson P. Schmidt of the University of Minnesota. Under their plan a million and a half dollars of our annual war debt collections (three fourths of one per cent) would be set aside to create one thousand scholarships of $1500 each "to bring to our colleges and universities one thousand college men and women who are destined to be among future leaders in the political, educational, economic, financial, and social affairs of their respective countries." The scholarships would be distributed among the twenty-seven European countries according to a carefully worked out ratio of national population to total European population which would give to England, for instance, one ninth of the one thousand scholarships, or 111 visiting students. Each country would be allowed at least one student, regardless of population. The only conditions are that the student must be a citizen of one of the European countries, must have been graduated from an accredited university or college, must be selected by some educational authorities designated by the president, prime minister, or monarch of the country concerned, and that the student's chief interests of study and observation must be in the humanities. The plan would be administered by the office of education of the U. S. Department of the Interior. The authors hope that a bill embodying the scheme will be introduced in the new Congress, when it convenes in the fall.

The Business Side

CENTERING its discussions around five specific problems of first importance to school administrators, the second annual conference for school superintendents, board members, secretaries, and other administrative officers will be held at George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee, the last week in March. Last year, more than eight hundred school officials attended the conference. The five special topics of discussion this year are: Personnel and Relationships, School Housing, School Finance, Equipment and Supplies, Supervision. The program provides for round-table and group discussion, and special problems may be presented at the daily group conferences. Manufacturers are arranging an exhibit of school equipment and supplies. There will be no registration fees.

Postgraduate Night School

NIGHT schools for undergraduate study, particularly in urban centers, are now taken as a matter of course. Their curricula and the grade of work done often surpass those of the day sessions. Attempts to extend evening work into graduate fields are still infrequent. Parke S. Kolbe of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn describes such an undertaking in a recent issue of School and Society. Three years ago the institute first offered night courses in its departments of civil, electrical, mechanical and chemical engineering and in chemistry, leading to the master's degree. About 120 students registered for the work. In 1929 the number increased to 181, and last fall (1930) there were 248. The number of courses has increased from fifteen in 1928 to twenty-five. Creditable graduation from a recognized technical or scientific institution is the prerequisite for all courses. Students have come from more than fifty Amercian schools and from eight foreign institutions. As might be expected, technical industries furnish a large part of the students. Communication companies account for thirty-five and light and power companies for forty-nine registrants. The institute has called on its own faculty members as teachers for the evening graduate courses and has secured the help of "visiting professors" from nearby institutions. Similar plans for leisure-time graduate study in engineering are under way at the University of Pittsburgh, University of Wisconsin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Pennsylvania, and Case. Mr. Kolbe comments:

> The unusual factor in the situation lies in the fact that the evening plan of graduate study for employed engineers seems to have opened up a new field in adult education for which there is, in the larger cities at least, a very large potential demand.

Smith Looks at Some Freshmen

SMITH COLLEGE established its Personnel Office in 1925 The report of the director, Mabelle B. Blake, for the past year, included in the president's annual report, gives a summary of a year's study of two hundred run-of-the-mill freshmen, which indicates not only the type of work being done by the Smith College office but the need for college personnel work, particularly with underclassmen. Of the group, 78 had pre-

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

pared for college at private schools, 66 at public highschools and 56 had had training at both. The usual reasons they gave for coming to college were: for general development and culture; "to satisfy my parents;" "to get a background that will make me better able to earn my living;" "college is more bearable than too many social affairs;" 'I am interested in study," given by 8. The problems of these freshmen divided themselves into five general groups: study problems, 78; family problems, 36; social problems, 27; personality problems, 31; vocational problems, 28. Few knew how to study. Many showed a deficiency in tool subjects, particularly reading, English composition, and grammar. "The most obvious difficulty to achievement," Miss Blake states, "is the lack of a schedule of the proper distribution of time for work as well as for leisure." Many were helped in making a "time budget," a few were referred to various departments for special help.

In family, social, and personality problems, the student was led so far as possible to view her difficulty objectively, with emphasis on the intellectual rather than the emotional approach. The "chronic worriers" in some cases needed the help of the psychiatrist. "The majority now have a more confident outlook on life." Most of the students plan to earn after college, but many are unable to choose a vocation. "The important thing," as Miss Blake sees is, "is to start them thinking about their assets and liabilities and to help them discover as soon as possible in what occupations workers with like propensities have been most successful." Vocational interview sheets issued by the Psychological Research Federation were given to some for self-discovery; others were urged to spend their summers in try-out experience. All members of the group were asked, at the close of the year, What has been your chief gain during your freshman year? How do you feel the next class could be given more adequate help? "To the last question," Miss Blake observes, "few had anything to offer." In answering the first question, the majority said they had gained a better understanding of themselves.

Some for the first time realized the value of contacts with people of different training, environment, and experience. Many emphasized the fact that they had learned to organize their material. . . . A few said real interest in subjects was stimulated for the first time. . . . A few, 4, said they had gained nothing; 14 were doubtful as to their gain but knew they had advanced; 3 felt they had retrograded because they had been thrown with girls who had no interest in college work.

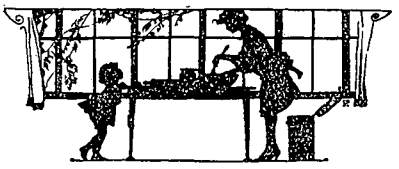
Home as a Laboratory

USING their homes as laboratories, 174,500 girls and women studied the science of home management and child care and training last year, according to a report recently issued by Adelaide S. Baylor, chief of the home economics education service, Federal Board for Vocational Education. The enrolment in home economics schools in 1931 increased 13 per cent over the year before, Miss Baylor points out. In 2789 centers, 4960 teachers were conducting courses in home budgeting, home furnishing, nutrition, and so on.

Students taking vocational home economics courses carry out in their own homes projects in which they receive correlated instruction in the classroom—their homes are their laboratories, in other words. Examples of remarkable improvements in the furnishings, business management, and food habits of homes as a result of training received by mothers or daughters are on record in the files of home economics vocational schools in every section of the country. Miss Baylor cities specifically the work done in Texas, where more than 8600 home projects, all representing activities related directly to the home and family life, were conducted in 1930.

By a pupil of Ethical Culture Branch School, New York

For the Gifted



PLANNED as an application of progressive school principles to the higher education of students of the arts—music, drama, literature, painting, sculpture—an "art center of college grade" is being organized in the Berkshire Hills. It is an outgrowth of a music school for advanced students established nine years ago by Katharine Frazier on a colonial farm near Cummington, Massachusetts. The three-year course will offer resident work during the summer, fall and spring months with a "field work" period in the cities in midwinter at the height of the opera, concert, theater, and art-show season. Talented young people who have completed secondary school or its equivalent "will be given the opportunity to work intensively in their chosen field of expression, to study related arts in the perspective of their work, and at the same time to absorb such fundamentals of a general cultural education as have bearing upon their artistic career." Here is a promising experiment in higher education fitted to the special needs of the gifted. Many people will regret that it begins its work handicapped by the trivial and sugary name, Playhouse-in-the-Hills. The business address is 251 West 57 Street, New York.

Biology for the Young

GROWING out of the efforts of a biologically trained mother to answer her seven-year-old son's questions about "life," a course that touches the high spots of geology, botany, zoology, anthropology, anatomy, and allied sciences is offered parents and teachers this year through the Institute of Education, New York University. The course is given by Marguerite E. Schwarzman, who organized the unique Children's Laboratories in Scarsdale, N. Y. Several years ago Mrs. Schwarzman took her small son and two of his friends on long country rambles, collecting plant and insect specimens to illustrate the "story of life." Other mothers begged to have the experiment continued, and Mrs. Schwarzman included more children and arranged a series of informal exhibits. This Children's Laboratory was finally housed in a suitably located cottage, with specimens and materials which may be freely handled. Nearby museums and commercial establishments for biological materials supply a rotation of exhibits especially appealing to children. From this center, study classes, discussion groups and a circulating library for mothers have sprung up. In her course at New York University, Mrs. Schwarzman supplements lectures with lantern slides and motion pictures, experiments, discussions, reports, and assigned readings. The Recreation Commission of Westchester County arranged to have some of the laboratory materials travel about the county with an interpreter, so that the children of more than twenty communities were served. The plan had to be temporarily abandoned, as Mrs. Schwarzman found it impossible to carry on this county service, and at the same time meet the demands of the mothers and children who wanted to visit the laboratory. Fuller accounts of these ventures in sex education may be found in the March 1930 issue of The Child Welfare Magazine and The Journal of Social Hygiene for February 1931.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

WORK SHOP

Localizing National Agencies

By MARGARET E. RICH

I AM thinking of a tiny town in France. A social worker is trying to persuade a group of townswomen that there is need for health education, that the representative women of the town should form a committee, plan a program, develop public interest. The women are courteous, tolerant of these new and rather fantastic ideas, until the question of action comes up. They are convinced theoretically of the importance of health propaganda, but to suggestions for any concrete application of these theories they shake their heads, smiling but firm. Finally as a last eloquent argument, the social worker brings up the fact that Pauillac, the neighboring town, has started a committee.

The smiling, detached interest of the women stiffens into courteous but determined opposition. They exchange glances. The wife of the local doctor voices their protest: "Ah yes, Pauillac. That town has health problems, if you like. It is indeed fortunate that they have seen the need. May it not be too late! Pauillac," with enthusiasm, "should have all the activities that the American lady has pointed out. But Lesparre"—with an ingathering gesture of the hands to her fellow townswomen—"Lesparre is different." And of course it was. To such an argument there is no answer.

This difference, and it is not only in France that it exists, is the enemy of anything that approaches a blanket social program, a paper pattern guaranteed to fit every community, just order by size and we do the rest. We are concerned, and rightly so, about helping local communities and local social agencies develop a national viewpoint. Paradoxically, however, nationals will be able to help locals acquire this desirable perspective only insofar as they themselves have become able to apprehend the realities of the local viewpoint. They must have taken into their own thinking at least some of those things which are real to people living in Pauillac and Lesparre.

First of all there is the fact of a difference, its quality, its size are of less importance than the bare fact of its existence. It may be very slight, it may be geographical, historical, national, political, religious, industrial. It may be a combination of these as complicated as Hamlet's definition of the drama, or it may be none of them, invisible to the naked eye, intangible, unmeasurable, it is, nevertheless real. We glory in our differences. "Aren't we all" is the covering we use for our multitude of sins. It is this difference, combined with other more or less indefinable qualities that makes a community out of a mere place. The recognition of differences implies an attempt at least to preserve and capitalize their intrinsic value for the common good. Implicit also is the necessity for respecting differences, not just accepting them as necessary evils (or goods) on the basis of their relationship to us and to our plans.

From the local community thinking, a national may gain insight into the value of thinking small before you think large. Being a part of a local community gives as it were a center to the circle of existence. It implies working from the particular to the general, interpreting the universe in terms of a limited group of known phenomena. The local community is apt to think less in terms of movements and programs than of somehow helping a particular group of people get what they more or less obviously need.

The local community evaluates its social agencies not by their maintenance of certain standards, but by their visible effectiveness to meet the locally recognized needs of that particular community at that particular time. The permeation of national-agency thinking by this particular point of view helps bridge the distance between national and local groups that it is designed to serve. The national group that thinks of itself only as serving a local agency may develop a tendency to think of local agencies as existing to offer reciprocal service—to further a movement instead of as designed, first to serve a particular local group, and from the well doing of a specific task contributing both actually and potentially to the movement as a whole. It is this point of view which puts theories to the test of their applicability to a given situation, "Will they work here and now?"

LOCAL communities if they are worthy of the name, have a wholesome independence which is important for the whole process of social planning. With many groups working independently to discover ways of curing some of the ills of society there is a resulting vigor that is an essential element in the cure. The reluctance of local communities to take their social thinking out of cans filled at some central filling station is probably one of their greatest contributions to national social-work movements. The local community or the group behind a local agency should not be deprived of the stimulus of thinking through its own problems. The national agency may offer its greatest service by encouraging the thinking process rather than by a direct answer to "What shall we do now?" Undoubtedly there are times when a national agency can step in and save a local group from the kind of mistake that will crystallize thinking, that will arrest growth and do actual harm to the personalities it is striving to serve. There are many situations, however, when the worst mistake the national can make is to prevent a local group from making its own mistakes.

Even the most progressive local community has some traditions, some traditional ways of doing things to which it clings. It is so easy to be aware of the stumbling blocks to progress set up by these traditions that national agencies are likely to be

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

blind to their values. Tradition is not necessarily of the hitching-post variety. It may be the kind that means merely moving forward *from* something that was once worth going forward *to*. It may mean roots, a good foundation on which to build and something that keeps a community from undirected and haphazard growth. Sometimes the tendency of local groups to keep people in social-work jobs long after they have outlived their usefulness is a groping attempt to avoid the kind of transition that moves away *from* something more rapidly than it moves *toward* something else. Respect for community traditions is often intertwined with the respect for personalities which have helped to form those traditions.

HOW can these local group attitudes, these approaches to life which are inherent in the thinking that looks out from the center of the smaller circle (and others that may be equally important), become part and parcel of the national agency's equipment? Obviously there is no blanket method; there is no routine that can establish the kind of participation that is essential to the creative sharing of attitudes. In fact routine is the most dangerous enemy to genuine participation. Participation depends primarily on the existence of a two-way street. There must be a flow both ways, the national agencies and the local agencies both receiving and both giving.

National agencies have been and are aware of the need of getting the local viewpoint for its staff members. They have attempted to meet the need by selecting at least their field workers from the part of the country which each is to serve. This procedure assumes that only an Iowan can understand Iowa, only a New Englander, New England. Basically the assumption is false, because it suggests an identity among Iowa communities and among New England communities which actually does not exist. It may bring to the national staff specific local viewpoints, but it does not bring, or only in rare instances does it bring, what we would call the generic local viewpoint.

Perhaps the most effective method would be periodic re-dipping of national agency staffs in local color. The exchange idea offers many possible adaptations. The national-agency staff member might change jobs with the local executive or assistant executive for a period of six months or longer, or he might take a leave of absence and actually do a local job. It should be stipulated that he must return to the national staff or the national agency will not profit from his experience. If his immersion in the local job were of long enough duration (the length of time necessary would vary with the individual) he would get not only an awareness of that particular community but would become sensitized to some of the things which are common in a lesser or greater degree to all local community groups. For one thing, he would discover how long it takes to understand a local community. His appreciation of local community values would be deepened and intensified. He should, however, because of his previous national experience be able to see these things in perspective as it were, and to extract from them the elements which would, when he returns to the national staff, illumine his relationship with other perhaps widely different local groups. We might think of this re-dipping in local color as having also the value of testing theories by practical application.

He will, too, get a realization of the vital and often changing needs of the group which the national agency is actually serving through its local member agency.

This of course is only one way of bridging the gap between the national and the local. There are some rare souls whose local color does not fade or crock; there are others however who will need to repeat local experiences at periodic intervals; there are still others for whom ingenuity and imagination must devise yet other methods of acquiring local perspective on national movements.

All of this of course will be worth doing only insofar as there is some very definite return in benefits to the local social-work planning and execution. The national agency that merely absorbs the local viewpoint without subjecting it to a chemical process that will enable it to give back to the local a plus over and above the initial contribution will merely be following a vicious circle. It is like playing anagrams by merely changing letters about without adding a new letter. A national agency, after it has become attuned to the local differences, must needs help the local community see these differences in perspective.

The responsibility for making the national agency's contribution valuable does not rest upon the national agency alone. The local communities and the local organizations have a very definite part to play in determining in what way the national agency can be of the greatest service in promoting more effective social planning and social work. It may well be that national agencies should be invited more frequently to help the local community in its social planning than as an agency to organize an agency or a definite type of social work. We are doing a lot of fumbling as well as experimenting in this field and the need for group thinking as between locals and nationals is still with us. Certainly both nationals and locals need to be concerned with the breaking down of local complacency with things as they are and the prevention of the kind of provincialism which is a danger for national and local alike. Both nationals and locals need to recognize that as a people we live in a state and a nation as well as in a town or a city. We cannot live unto ourselves alone. Our social planning even for an individual community will be effective only insofar as it has taken into consideration its relation to other communities, both national and international. The local community may, through national agencies, make a definite contribution to meeting those needs which in spite of environmental and other differences are common to human beings the world over.

Today we find skyscrapers on the plains of Texas, suburban cottages on lonely countrysides, houses, like ready-made clothes, constructed not for the people who are to live in them but according to a general pattern. In increasing efficiency, in lowering costs we are ironing out the values as well as the evils of individual differences. Social work, whether local or national, if it is to perform its function of the development and enrichment of the individual personality should never become a mere matter of interchangeable parts.

What Should the Reference Tell?

Question: Should an executive, in sending an unfavorable letter of reference or a report concerning a staff member, limit himself to estimates previously discussed with the staff member? Give the letter to the staff member to read before sending?

Comments:

LEROY A. RAMSDELL, executive secretary, Council of Social Agencies, Hartford, Conn.

LILLIAN A. QUINN, director, Joint Vocational Service, New York.

J. BLAINE GWIN, director of personnel, American Red Cross.

YOUR question implies as a possible alternative that a letter of reference might properly be restricted to such statements as have been discussed or shown to the worker. When I sit down to write a letter of reference on a worker in my employ I am under obligations in at least four directions: to the worker in question, to the prospective employer and the interests which he represents, to the profession, and to myself. My obligations to the prospective employer and to the profession are sufficient to require that my report shall state the facts of the matter as adequately as I am able to.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Your question then becomes simply: Shall I tell the worker what I propose to put into the report? My answer is yes. In the first place my obligations to the worker require it. I owe it to the worker to let him know just where he stands with me. I owe it to him to help him comprehend his capacities and his limitations in relation to the requirements of the profession or occupation which he has chosen. I have a responsibility for helping him to face the realities of his personal situation. All these are the obligations of an employer (at least in social work) to an employe. If I have met them properly and continuously, then the conference on the letter of reference will be only a routine confirmation of an already established understanding.

In the second place, I owe it to the prospective employer to save him the embarrassment of having to turn down an applicant for a job for reasons which he is not at liberty to reveal to the applicant. This obligation seems to me so nearly axiomatic that I can think of no way of adding force to the mere statement of it.

Finally, I owe it to myself to face squarely all of my own responsibilities in the situation. If I allow myself to get in the position of having to choose whether I shall discharge my obligations to the prospective employer and the profession at the expense of my obligations to the worker, then I am simply inadequate to my own responsibilities.

I can think of plenty of reasons why it might be difficult or uncomfortable to pursue this policy, but none of them seems to me to justify a policy of double-dealing. The ethical convention must require complete frankness toward all parties to the transaction. If there might be circumstances which would warrant my breaking the convention in a particular case, those circumstances would probably disqualify me as a proper reference on that case. LEROY A. RAMSDELL

LET us agree first, that letters of reference from social agencies should be honest letters and second, that executives should help staff members adjust to their jobs and the opportunities ahead. The contents of letters of reference are determined in considerable part by the capacity of the inquirer or the organization represented to make a helpful and wise use of discriminating information. Honest letters not only give correct information but do not create a false impression by leaving out pertinent information. The executive who recognizes a responsibility to help staff members will be prepared to discuss with these workers both their strengths and weaknesses, their successes and their failures.

The only question then is, should the executive discuss all unfavorable estimates which are to be included in a letter of reference?

If there is a prior discussion of these unfavorable estimates, the worker may be able to present explanations and arguments which will convince the executive that his estimate or diagnosis was incorrect. The worker is entitled to the usual rights of a defendant before sentence, or even judgment, is passed. The worker, if successful in securing the new position, will be helped to make successful adjustments if he knows what estimate his new employer has of him. The knowledge that there has been frankness, honesty, and understanding in these relationships makes for satisfaction and easier adjustments just as the lack of these and thoughts of injustice help establish uncertainty, distrust, and sometimes create destructive emotional conflicts. Most workers should be told of unfavorable estimates which are to be a part of letters of reference. There are, however, in my opinion, many exceptions which should be made to such a practice.

In a small staff the relationships are apt to be closer and less formal than is generally possible for a large staff. The executives of small staffs can be franker without so much danger of creating misunderstanding and discouragements. Some people have "fixed personality," mannerisms and viewpoints which are relatively unchangeable. Others may be struggling to establish an adjustment or equilibrium. To have such workers try to face their own situation may result in complete demoralization and discouragement. Others have physical defects, or personal appearances, attitudes and mannerisms, inherited or acquired, which may be and often are not subject to change. Information regarding such things should enter into references, but a frank discussion of these with staff members might do irreparable harm.

If there has been a prior discussion of the estimates which enter into the reference letter, workers who trust the executive would generally not desire to see the letter and if the practice is followed of showing such letters to the staff member, reference letters soon become of little value. J. BLAINE GWIN

THESE are not simple questions you have raised nor easy to answer. Instead of saying yes or no, one immediately wants to ask what has been the policy and practice in the organization about supervision and criticism of work along the way. A reference given near the close of a period of service ought not be a sudden appraisal of a staff member's success or limitations. Even if a single conference precedes the writing of the letter and its proposed contents are discussed, this still is unsatisfactory because presumably there is no time in his present position for the worker to profit from the criticism made. Ideally, any staff member should have the opportunity to know from time to time what those to whom he is responsible think of his performance of work. If that is the practice of the agency, the reference will not be an isolated statement unrelated to these discussions. There is more virtue in such a policy than simply to give a staff member the benefit of the opinion and criticism of a more experienced worker or to give him the chance to present his side, if he disagrees with the criticism. Facts must form the basis of such a conference and reference must be made to specific instances, even if the points stressed most and the conclusions arrived at are somewhat general in character. The critic, in preparing for and carrying on such a conference, must make reasonably sure of his ground.

Where this is the practice of an organization, the staff member would know what comment to expect about his performance of work, which is the important part of any reference. There may nevertheless be certain handicaps in a worker which an executive is aware of, which it would not be helpful to discuss with him directly, but about which a second employer ought to be familiar. I am, therefore, not ready to say unqualifiedly that a letter of reference, even if unfavorable on the whole, should always be limited to estimates previously discussed. Whether or not the letter has been so limited, I see no necessity for giving the letter to a worker to read before sending. LILLIAN A. QUINN

Arthur Dunham and the Red Queen

"NOW, in this country," the Red Queen told Alice, "it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run twice as fast as that."

The Red Queen was right, claims Arthur Dunham in Better Times. Even if she wasn't talking about social work periodicals, she was right. For the social worker must read hard if he wants to continue to keep in touch with developments of the day as he did when he was in the training school. He must read much harder if he wants to advance!

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

There are, however, a few practical suggestions which, if consistently followed, may give the social worker at least a sporting chance of holding his own in the magazine marathon. Here are the suggestions:

1. Put magazine reading into your program. If you haven't a program, read Arnold Bennett's How to Live on Twenty-Four Hours a Day, and try making one. Magazine reading takes time—just like interviews, "conferences," bridge, and detective stories.

2. Limit your aims. You can't read everything that is written on social work. The most you can hope to do is: (1) to keep up technically and thoroughly with one specialized field of social work—two fields at the most; (2) to maintain an intelligent "current events" or background knowledge of the progress of social work as a whole.

3. Select your magazine with these aims in mind. The Survey for every social worker, of course; it is the trade magazine of social work, and gives both general background and much on your own specialty. Better Times if you are interested in New York, publicity, money-raising, or administration. And the News Bulletin of the Social Work Publicity Council if you are an executive or have anything to do with publicity.

I am inclined to think that every social worker would do well to try to read regulary at least one of the sociological or academic journals, such as Social Forces, Social Service Review and American Journal of Sociology.

In addition, there will probably be one or more periodicals or bulletins in your own special field.

4. Develop a techique of reviewing periodicals. Cultivate the art of skimming the unimportant and concentrating on the important.

5. Clip your magazines. Generally speaking, the idea of keeping a complete file of a magazine is a delusion and a snare for an individual. Clipping is infinitely simpler and more satisfactory. Mark the articles which you want to clip, while you are reviewing the magazine. Select for clipping articles which you will probably want to refer to again, because of their permanent value or their importance to your job.

6. Identify your clippings. Write the name of the magazine (abbreviated) and the date of the issue on each clipping. This is most important. It places the source and date of your clipping beyond dispute and makes it available for authoritative citation or reference. Don't fail to identify your clippings.

Forerunner for Annual Reports

A GOOD way of announcing an annual report or other booklet which you want to have read by the recipient might be to send a folded mailing card such as that recently mailed by S. D. Warren Company of Boston, Massachusetts. The back of it was blank. The front said, "Your copy is being released today!" and carried the address of the recipient. The inside started by saying, "This book is on the way to YOU in a big gray carton—watch for it! It contains ninety-six pages of proven direct advertising plans and ideas." The booklet itself was pictured. The rest of the folder was a description of the material in the booklet. Why could not a social agency follow this example with profit?

How I Save Myself

ARTHUR DUNHAM once pointed out in The Survey that an important phase of any job is the administration of one's own work-time. The wise worker is he who so plans his day that his time is spent not on non-essentials but on things which fit into a definite scheme. This will leave little periods of relaxation during the day, when the tension can be slackened. How can such moments of relaxation be made to count most?

"One of my little tricks is to keep my eyes closed in the subway," writes Mary K. Simkhovitch of Greenwich House Settlement, New York city. "That gives me a good many extra hours for planning and thinking over things. Another is that I never open the last mail. What is the use? One does not have a stenographer then and cannot reply if there is anything very important. Probably there would be something upsetting and that would keep one from concentrating on the work or pleasure of the evening. Another practical idea, if one has three minutes between appointments, is to lie down during that time rather than sit up." Still further suggestions she makes are: "An hour shut off from telephone or visits before dinner enables one to put in an evening of work without fag. . . . The question of lighting is important. A bright, glaring light in a room where one works or reads takes away from peaceful concentration. . . . Always to have a few fresh flowers and bits of green is a possible luxury if one cuts out other things. They give a sense of nature and help do away with the illusions of the business and urban obsessions in which we destroy our creative power."

Some other people who save themselves for the important things of the day are: Helen Woodward, advertising expert, stays in home in the mornings and does her creative work away from the hurly-burly of the office. Elwood Street is fond of slipping into old clothes before breakfast and running for a half mile or so. The Survey staff does its relaxing late in the afternoon, when tea is served and the editorial staff gathers around the library table to swap gossip for fifteen minutes or to welcome a guest.

What devices have *you* for saving yourself? We would be glad to have you write us about them.

Guest Diagnosticians

A SERIES of "guest diagnosticians" were used by Neighborhood House, 1000 North 19 Street, St. Louis, Missouri, to analyze the strength and weakness of the organization. They included people without bias, chosen from the fields of medical, educational, psychiatric, and social research. The plan was announced to the board in this statement: "Neighborhood Association has been under its present administration for two years. Work began this fall with an unchanged staff, a better knowledge of our neighborhood, a deeper appreciation of our people and a high hope for better and more permanent results. The time has come when our work needs sharp analysis, a keen interpretation and a frank statement as to its strength and weakness. We of the staff are too close to see many of our inadequacies both as to personnel and program, so we ask what seems a fair question: 'Are we making satisfactory progress or skating on thin ice?'" Director J. A. Wolf reports highly satisfactory results.

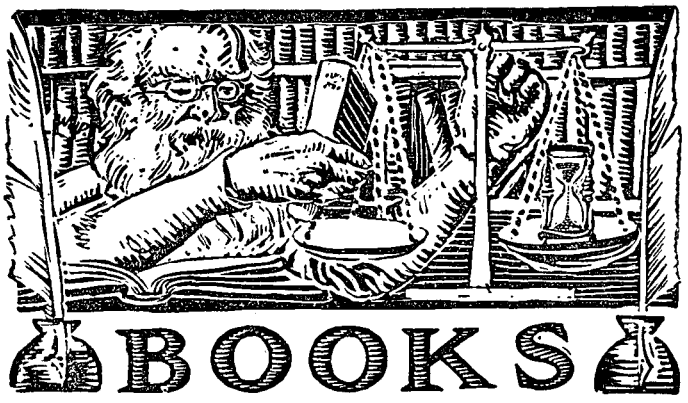
Place Them and Date Them

"WOULDN'T it be a good thing to call to the attention of your readers the principle that every bit of authentic printed matter should carry a signature?"

The writer of the above referred to an important six-page multigraphed statement, enclosed in a letter to him, which carried no indication of the organization responsible for it. The statement had been issued by a national social agency. It was not dated although it had been prepared for a particular time and place.

"Dear Workshop," pleads E. G. R., through whom this suggestion comes, "why not speak firmly but kindly to the good people who fail to place and date their minutes of meetings, reports of committees, lists of names and printed matter, including even survey reports and annual reports?"

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED



Rabbi Silver's Message

RELIGION IN A CHANGING WORLD, *by Abba Hillel Silver. Richard R. Smith. 204 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

ABBA HILLEL SILVER is rabbi of The Temple, Cleveland. He is also one of the most vigorous, liberal, and respected of modern Jews. He is a powerful preacher, a protagonist of every good social movement, and a sincere student of both Judaism and Christianity. He is also an excellent non-technical Christian. This volume of ten essays, is exactly what one might expect from such a man. He has retained his racial heritage of deep mysticism but counters it with a thorough scientific knowledge. He has no hatred in his heart —only a hunger for deeper understanding—his message is almost exclusively positive in tone. About the only religionists who arouse his scorn are the half-hearted Modernists, who are prone to feel that all change is progress. How does he stand on the conflict of religion with science? "There is no fundamental issue between them. The conflict has been largely one of trespassing, and resulted from the attempt of one to poach on the preserves of the other." In the matter of social justice? "The first great service which the church . . . can render the cause of social justice, is to galvanize by education and inspiration the will of men so that they will seek justice and pursue it. . . . But it must cry aloud . . . against . . . unemployment . . . injustice . . . greed . . . lust. . . ." Has he practical knowledge of social service? "Organized charity has passed through two stages . . is in the third stage. The first stage . . . was nothing more than collective almsgiving. . . . The second stage was prevention, the attempt to anticipate disaster. . . . The third stage is . . . adjustment. The vast number neither need nor request material relief . . . but mental and spiritual adjustment. Into such a family the social worker goes as a diagnostician. . . ."

This man knows what he is talking about and he would be completely at home in a score of Protestant pulpits known to this reviewer, for he preaches the doctrine of love of God and love of man, like another Jew who lived a long time ago to whom this man refers as a "unique personality." You'd better read the book. CHARLES STAFFORD BROWN

Colorado Springs, Colo.

A Layman Discusses His Case

TUBERCULOSIS, ITS CAUSE, PREVENTION AND CURE, *by Frank H. Livingston. Macmillan. 191 pp. Price $2.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

PERSONAL experience with tuberculosis has been frequently recorded. The present volume is unique in that a layman has attempted to present to laymen an ordered account of the disease from etiology through symptoms to treatment. The author takes the sting out of his criticism of physicians by reiterating the statement that "Tuberculosis is a specialty, perhaps the greatest of them all." At the same time, he proves by his writing that a victim of tuberculosis, especially if intelligent, is *"un médicin malgré lui."* He disclaims the intent to prescribe and then proceeds to give rather detailed directions for treatment, even including the use of alcohol and certain drugs. However, he stresses the point that there is no medicinal cure for tuberculosis, emphasizes again and again the paramount importance of rest, and urges above all that patients should put themselves under the immediate care of an adequate physician pointing out the importance of early diagnosis and treatment.

He has not the doctor's inhibitions in writing of scientific matters. He can be dogmatic even on controversial questions with no apologies to his conscience. For this reason he may serve his public better, provided he is moderately sound and errs always on the side of safety. This latter Mr. Livingston does. For example, the statement that inherited tendencies may be "overcome" might be questioned, but living as though they may is certainly sound. Each chapter in the book has something to commend it, although the arrangement of material would bear improving. There is nothing new or that has not been told as well or better elsewhere. But that good, sound common sense is the underlying factor in our attack on tuberculosis is refreshing in repetition. KENDALL EMERSON, M.D.

Neglected Country Children

GUIDING RURAL BOYS AND GIRLS, *Flexible Guidance Programs for Use by Rural Schools and Related Agencies, by O. Latham Hatcher. McGraw-Hill. 326 pp. Price $2.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

RURAL GIRLS IN THE CITY FOR WORK, *by O. Latham Hatcher and Others. Garrett and Massie. 154 pp. Price $1.75 postpaid of The Survey.*

A MOUNTAIN SCHOOL, *edited by O. Latham Hatcher. Garrett and Massie. 248 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

DOWN in Virginia there is an extraordinary woman darting about, rather like a brown bird flying here and there. In recent years she has turned from an interest in the occupational orientation of women to a concentration upon the problems of the rural girl, at home, at school, and at work. I have heard that six books are to come from the press this year, giving results of some of the investigations undertaken by the Southern Woman's Educational Alliance under the direction of O. Latham Hatcher, who combines scientific interests with a rich human personality and a humorous cynicism with a fantastic capacity for making people do things they did not expect to do. Here are three of the books bearing her name and sponsored by the Alliance.

The increasing responsibility of the school is making inevitable the employment of special workers whose concern will not be with the formal subjects taught, but with a wide variety of problems concerning the child's adjustment to life. In Guiding Rural Boys and Girls the interrelations of educational and vocational guidance are recognized. Because of his limited environment the rural child is even more handicapped than the city child in his choice of educational subjects, schools, and occupations; it is a particular misfortune that the rural schools have so few facilities for overcoming this handicap. Programs laid down in this volume provide for educational and vocational counseling, for teaching the occupations at various grade levels, for keeping adequate reports and making special studies of the children. It is a thoroughly practical book and a contribution to vocational literature.

The guidance book has grown out of the experience gained in working directly with rural girls, both in the country and in the city, and out of the knowledge collected in various special studies, two of which are listed here. In the study called Rural Girls in the City for Work, the experiences of 255 girls are presented, with information concerning their reasons for coming to the city, preparation for work, remuneration, conditions under which they live, and the like. All the girls declare that they have bettered their condition by coming to the city, and this judgment is confirmed in most cases by the investigators, in spite of the many difficulties which the untrained country girl is apt to encounter.

A Mountain School studies particularly the Konnarock Training School and the girls who come to it, the homes from

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

which they come, and so on. It is a picture of buried lives, in "Lonesome Valley" and elsewhere. Send it to your congressman the next time an appropriation for more battleships is being debated. President Hoover encountered one underprivileged rural boy, with well-known results; in these valuable studies we are brought face to face with a great section of neglected youth and shown some of the things that need now to be done.

LORINE PRUETTE
New York City

Freeing Children

THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN, *by Alfred Adler. Translated by Eleanore and Friedrich Jensen, M.D. Greenberg. 309 pp. Price $3.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

ONLY in these latter days did untrammelled thinkers begin questioning the perogative of society to "break" and to harness the individual to conform to its standards, its points of view, its patterns of behavior, its notions of what is useful and what is dangerous. Only then did "problem" individuals, encouraged by the doctrines of anarchistic thinkers, become a matter of discussion, analysis, and regimentation. The development of individual psychology, of special education would not have been possible in the closed-mind thinking of a number of generations ago. But although times have changed and freedom of discussion is more readily tolerated, we seem to lack the power to accomplish the changes necessary to free the individual from congenital and social handicaps. Adler has been one of the commendable pioneers in this realm. His Education of Children is a worth-while contribution to the literature. But more ink will have to be spilled and more energy exerted before a perceptible change in our modern situation is achieved.

If this were Adler's first major contribution, we would look upon him as a ragged thinker, careless writer, and presenting a badly garbled psychology. The book seems terrifically amateurish in spots for those acquainted with the literature on Problem Children, and frequently too involved and over-technical for the beginner. Perhaps the manuscript was hastily written. It seems to lack finish, a proper sequence, and development of subject matter; and the style and composition are occasionally sloppy. Numerous statements, open to serious question, mar the quality of the work.

But in spite of its handicaps, the book should prove valuable in the hands of teachers, social workers, and parents. The last chapter on educating the parents is the best and alone would justify reading the preceding thirteen for the rare meat packed into those twelve pages.

S. C. KOHS
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Where the Negro Worker Stands

THE BLACK WORKER, *by Sterling D. Spero and Abram L. Harris. Columbia University Press. 496 pp. Price $4.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

THE press announcement calls this book "an exposition of the Negro's new status in industry." It is more—it is really an historical analysis of the economic position of the Negro in America, tracing it as a resultant of the interplay of the major economic issues and forces in the national life. This is sound but regrettably rare. Here, then, is a book that promises to be path-breaking in its common-sense insistence that the Negro segment of life be explained as part of the general whole to which it belongs. The authors follow the Negro as a worker from the conditions of slavery to the present position of a labor reserve in the stubbornly feudal South and a pawn in the conflict of capital and organized labor in the North and Middle-West. Each stage is seen as the result of the interplay of general economic and social conditions. Special mention must be made of the detailed chapters on the Negro in the skilled trades and on the policies of the trade-union bodies in their paradoxical and selfish treatment of Negro labor.

These chapters, and the discussion of the attitude of radicalism toward the black worker and his attitude to radicalism and proletarian class-consciousness, for which Professor Harris is mainly responsible, furnish the student of the present-day problems of the Negro with original and brilliantly diagnostic information. The book discovers the slow "beginnings of Negro labor-consciousness," which may in time "develop a labor leadership which will help to educate both the Negro workers and the general labor movement to the realization of the need of black and white unity." Without an industrial and political alignment of the working-class cutting across race lines, the study sees only very gradual improvement of the Negro's economic position through occasional advantage in the industrial struggle between capital and labor and in the impending industrialization of the South.

ALAIN LOCKE
Howard University

Coal and Communism

LABOR AND COAL, *by Anna Rochester. International Publishers. 250 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

AS a study of the coal industry and its problems the first two thirds of this book are excellent. Anna Rochester has well described the over-development and chaos under private management. She has taken great care in getting accurate figures on the profits, interest, and royalties of the industry as well as the daily and yearly incomes of mine workers. She portrays vividly the dangerous and bleak existence of three and a half million men, women, and children and we learn accurately of the millions more who have been driven from the industry by mechanical loading, more efficient use of coal, and the displacement of this fuel by oil, gas, and water power. The misery caused by part-time employment and chronic unemployment is not exaggerated.

The last third of the book is a history of the struggles of the miners for better conditions. Much of it contains historical material of value but the strong Communist bias of the author leads her away from the factual basis of the preceding chapters. Her description of the disintegration of the United Mine Workers of America under Lewis, the account of betrayals and corruption, is quite accurate. Running all through her account of this, however, are little digs against the non-Communist elements and she fails to tell in her chapter on The Revolutionary Union and the Future that most of the leading spirits of the Communist miners' union have been removed from office because they did not belong to the controlling faction of the Communist Party. In her praise of the fighting qualities of Communist miners, which no one admires more than I do, she fails to tell of their stupidities, such as calling strikes that haven't a chance of being won, thereby playing into the operators' hands and getting their most militant members driven from the industry. Her desire for the success of the left-wing union leads her to refer to their defeats as victories and to give unwarranted prospects of success for the future.

Anna Rochester's book, however, is a valuable study for those interested in the coal industry.

POWERS HAPGOOD
Indianapolis, Ind.

One Church and Industry

THE CHURCH AND INDUSTRY, *by Spencer Miller and Joseph F. Fletcher. Longman's, Green. 266 pp. Price $2.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

THE co-authors of this book give an historical account of the various movements within the Episcopal Church of England and America dealing with the industrial problem. To give the book the title it bears will tempt some unwary buyers, who do not know that Anglicans use the word "the church" in a special denominational sense, to purchase it on the assumption that it deals with the whole problem of church and industry. The first three chapters, dealing with radical movements within the Church of England, reveal once more how much the American Church has benefited by the inspiration it has received from the thought in the English Church. But

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

subsequent chapters also reveal that the American Church has never equalled its English mother in the vigor of its attack upon the industrial problem.

The account of the various efforts made by organizations within the American Episcopal Church is rather too detailed to be of interest to the general reader. Conventions, resolutions, and committee personnel are given in detail even when they have no special significance. What the book lacks above all is a vigorous treatment of the whole desperate problem of making a Christian ethic effective in our industrial society. One might draw the conclusion from this book that the church is moving steadily forward in becoming a factor to be reckoned with in the reorganization of our industrial society. There are some hopeful factors in the life and the thought of the modern church, not excluding the Episcopal, but they are not sufficiently significant to warrant a book as complacent in spirit as this one.

REINHOLD NIEBUHR

Union Theological Seminary

For Case Workers

A CHANGING PSYCHOLOGY IN SOCIAL CASE WORK, *by Virginia P. Robinson. Univ. of North Carolina Press. 199 pp. Price $2.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

MISS ROBINSON'S gift to the five-book shelf of social case work is unique in its freedom of personal expression. It is a welcome oasis in our hot search through shifting sands. Yet The Changing Psychology of Social Case Work offers no surcease from further search but encourages the reader to plunge on. If he does, chances are that he again will find himself in the company of the associate director of the Pennsylvania School of Social and Health Work. Treatment is considered as dependent upon the quality of relationship between worker and client—a dynamic relationship made vivid by and transposed from the Rankian school of analytic practice. Attitudes are paramount, methods are corollary, and both are subject to constant variation. Growth is the goal. Process and prospects are colored by individual reaction to early traumas, the conflicting urges toward union and separation, and so on. Helpful, non-condescending relationships with clients are the outcome of the worker's deep understanding of the components of this view of dynamic therapeutics. Significant implications of the value of self-conscious, responsible relationship are further indicated in the discussions of student training, history taking, individual prognosis, and other puzzling matters. A vivid explanation is given of the differences between dealing with the present situation and delving for past history.

Part I is a concentrated report of case work before 1920, and the Emergence of the Individual. It is neither pretentious nor academic, but like any prelude is necessary for the presentation of the central theme. Apparently it was of no more interest to the author than meticulous editing. It is in Part II, the Emergence of a Relationship 1920-30, that Miss Robinson divulges her interests, enthusiasms, and thoughtful penetration of current complexities. The book is candid in disagreement, is positive in theme, is compact with debatable material, and is, parodoxically, decisive yet tentative.

ELIZABETH HEALY

Child Guidance Clinic, Philadelphia

Objective Research

METHODS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE, *by Stuart A. Rice, University of Chicago Press. 822 pp. Price $4.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

THIS volume is the product of about two years' work of the Conference on Scientific Method in the Social Sciences of the Social Science Welfare Council. It is edited by Stuart A. Rice and Harold D. Lasswell who served as investigators. The sixty or more methods analyzed relate to anthropology, economics, history, human geography, politics and law, psychology, social psychology, and sociology. The theories and methods analyzed are of both American and foreign scholars, though forty-seven of the forty-nine analysts who collaborated in producing this very important survey are identified with American universities. This is a significant contribution to research in social science and it ought to add considerable impetus to the present urge toward objectivity in social research. Some disagreement might arise about which of the contemporary scholars should have been included with Comte, Marshall, Boaz, Sumner, and Voltaire, however full the woods may be of eligible candidates. Survey readers will be especially pleased to learn that Mary E. Richmond is included.

Seth Low Junior College NELS ANDERSON

Twins By and Large

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN THE UNITED STATES, *by Bryce M. Stewart, in collaboration with Jeanne C. Barber, Mary B. Gilson, Margaret L. Stecker. Industrial Relations Counselor, Inc. 702 pp. Price $7.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

HERE in reality are two volumes between one pair of covers, based on a study under the auspices of Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc., of unemployment insurance here and abroad, emphasizing unemployment insurance plans set up in this country by management, by unions, and by joint agreement. The first half surveys this country's approach to unemployment, our statistics, employment services, and vocational guidance projects, our use of public works to stabilize private industry, regularization by employers, and efforts to control the business cycle. The development of unemployment benefit plans is traced and their financial and administrative organization, procedure, and experience are adequately presented. The second part, more than three hundred fine-type pages with a hundred added pages of appendix to carry statistical data, is devoted to minutely detailed records of the history, provisions, and experience of each of the benefit plans included in the study. This is an invaluable compilation for reference purposes. For general readers, however, nothing could be duller. It is a pity that the first part, the timely, compact, authoritative discussion of industrial unemployment for which readers, libraries, book stores, college professors, students, harrassed editors have been clamoring the past months was not issued as a convenient, moderately priced volume, leaving the bulky and expensive source material for a "report" that libraries would make available to the comparatively small number who will be interested in it. The study on which the book is based was summarized by Mr. Stewart for Survey readers in the special issue on unemployment of April 1, 1929. Succeeding volumes on unemployment insurance to be issued by Industrial Relations Counselors will deal with the schemes worked out in Great Britain, Switzerland, Belgium, and Germany.

BEULAH AMIDON

Dewey Applied

THE TEACHER IN THE NEW SCHOOL, *by Martha Peck Porter World Book. 312 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

THE ends and means developed by Miss Porter in the third grade of the Lincoln School, Columbia University, represent an important further application of Dewey. The teacher is "the natural leader in the shared activity and is accepted as such." She finds for the children "the types of experience that are worth having, not merely for the moment but because of what they lead to." She works out "varied bodies of consecutive subject matter upon which teachers may draw, each in his own way, in conducting his own work." The author's aims were shaped by these ideas of Dewey and the latter's words will also serve to summarize what are specifically and lucidly recorded as accomplished facts. The book tells how, why, and what to do in a teaching opportunity. All doors of the new

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

school are unlocked except the forbidden one of a highschool curriculum and method that will meet present-day college entrance requirements and yet turn out young people equal to the psychological and social needs of the times. Either the title is too inclusive or the new school is erroneously assumed to stop with the sixth grade. The volume is well illustrated and brings together a wealth of the latest elementary-school material.

WILLARD H. EDWARDS
School of Organic Education,
Fairhope, Ala.

The Near East Balance Sheet

STORY OF NEAR EAST RELIEF, 1915-1930, *by James L. Barton. Macmillan. 479 pp. Illustrated. Price $2.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

WITH the revival of war-time memories now forced upon patient readers of the syndicated press, this picture of a brighter side of American international participation is twice welcome. The story of Near East Relief shows our social idealism applied to a project of human engineering planned with all the foresight and elaborated with all the effectiveness of which private enterprise is capable. With little previous experience of large-scale relief operations in distant lands, this American organization had to be inventive and experimental. Its program developed from relatively crude activities of first aid to a highly complex functioning. Education and hygiene, agricultural and industrial improvement, social organization and institutional provision eventually, in the post-war years, were carried to a point at which they are self-perpetuating and at which their integration in communal and national policies promises an ever growing native dynamic for social progress. Two results, more particularly, seem already to have been achieved: A traditional fatalistic attitude toward disease has been overcome; and the child has been given a new position in the concerns of family and society.

Mr. Barton's account is more than a footnote to recent social history. It provides a detailed description of methods that will be found useful as we participate more freely in other international enterprises. Not least important among these methods are those of an educational publicity at home which largely succeeded in transforming sentimental pity into a rational, informed, and helpful sympathy.

BRUNO LASKER
The Inquiry.

RUN OF THE SHELVES
A DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF THE NEW BOOKS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK, *Boston, 1930. Howard R. Knight, editor. 710 pp. Published for the Conference by the University of Chicago Press. Price $3.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

AVAILABLE for those who do not get the volume as part of their membership, or want extra copies. Well set, printed, and bound this is one of the few proceedings that looks like a real book.

THE COMING OF INDUSTRY TO THE SOUTH, *Edited by William J. Carson. Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. 292 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

A COMPACT and reliable review of how the machine age came to the South and what it means, particularly to labor and to the older social organization, is furnished by this volume of the Annals of the American Academy of Political Science.

EDUCATION ON THE AIR, *Bureau of Educational Research. Ohio State University. 400 pp. Price $3.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

PROCEEDINGS of the ten-day Institute on Radio Education at Ohio State University last year give a survey of this rather chaotic new field of teaching and learning. The papers and discussion have been edited by W. W. Charters, head of the University's Bureau of Educational Research under seven broad headings: Administration of Education by Radio; Activity at Home and Abroad; Radio in Educational Institutions; Schools of the Air; College Stations; Investigations of Education by Radio; Educational Techniques in Broadcasting.

THE GUIDANCE OF MENTAL GROWTH IN INFANT AND CHILD, *by Arnold Gesell. Macmillan. 322 pp. Price $2.25 postpaid of The Survey.*

AN ACCOUNT for the professional and general reader of principles in child guidance from the standpoint of developmental research, especially as it has been evolved in the pioneer work of the Yale Psycho-Clinic, of which Dr. Gesell is the director. Chapters on the nursery school movement, parent-child relationships, training to avoid accidents to children, and on clinical guidance in infant adoption are of practical interest to parents, teachers, and social workers.

WORK, *by Adriano Tilgher. Translated by Dorothy Canfield Fisher. Harcourt, Brace. 224 pp. Price $2.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER writes a provocative introduction to a book which provides good sole leather and beeswax for anyone who is trying to re-cobble his philosophy—but no rubber heels.

BEHAVIORISM, *by John B. Watson. Norton. 304 pp. Price $3.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

THE FIRST revised edition of the bible of Behaviorism, originally published in 1925, rewritten and with considerable new material.

A TECHNIQUE FOR STUDYING SOCIAL-MATERIAL ACTIVITIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN, *by Margaret Barker. Child Development Monograph No. 3, Teachers College, Columbia Univ. 69 pp. Price $1.50 postpaid of The Survey.*

DESCRIPTION of a technique for studying the spontaneous reactions of two- and three-year-old children to material objects and to people; one of the observational studies of the social behavior of children initiated by Dorothy Swaine Thomas at the Child Development Institute.

HIGHER EDUCATION FACES THE FUTURE, *by Paul Arthur Schilpp. Horace Liveright. 408 pp. Price $3.00 postpaid of The Survey.*

TWENTY educators contemplate the problems and the possibilities of American colleges and universities, most of them with more enthusiasm than the circumstances seem to warrant. The most illumining section is that on experiments in higher education, by Alexander Meiklejohn, Hamilton Holt, A. Lawrence Lowell, Frank Coleman, and Robert Devore Leigh, and the chapter, New Leaders Needed, by Dorothy Canfield Fisher.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHARACTER TRAITS IN YOUNG CHILDREN, *by Amelia McLester. Scribner's. 123 pp. Price $1.25 postpaid of The Survey.*

VERBATIM reports of classroom talks about such "problems" as untruthfulness, "pushing in public places," "dirty words" and so on, give point to this commonsense survey of why and how "character education" should be part of an elementary school program. The author is supervisor of rural schools in Albemarle County, Va.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, *by Jesse Frederick Steiner. Century. 443 pp. Price $2.75 postpaid of The Survey.*

THIS revised edition of a text first published in 1925 contains extensive modifications and new material. The author, who is professor of sociology at Tulane, states that it "undertakes to present a comprehensive survey of the development and present status of the community organization movement with special emphasis upon the field of social work." A quick sure note is struck in the introduction by J. I. Gillin, editor of the Century's Social Workers' Library, in which this volume is included. "Social work has passed its infancy," writes Professor Gillin. "It may not be past its adolescence, but it is developing rapidly. It has become conscious of its powers. It sees the fields of its opportunity. It is becoming sobered and steadied by experience. It is seeking guidance to meet its increasing responsibilities."

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

COMMUNICATIONS

Either Or

To the Editor: Even in these days of unemployment, one is a bit startled to see the following in the recently issued Social Work Year Book: "EMPLOYMENT. See UNEMPLOYMENT."

Louise C. Odencrantz

Employment Center for the Handicapped, New York City

An Author Explains

To the Editor: I was quite delighted when I saw Dr. Haggard's name signed to the review of my Fads, Frauds, and Physicians in The Survey of February 15. It so happens that I am in the midst of his inimitable Devils, Drugs, and Doctors which I think a most admirable and commendable popular book. . . . Since he was unfortunately unable to read my book carefully I wonder if you would give me a bit of space to state the thesis . . . my book was designed to demonstrate . . . that we lack today an adequate mechanism to get to the public the best medical knowledge available. The onus of my argument was directed against medicine individually organized on what is essentially a profit economy basis, and ruled by laissez-faire policies long discredited by advanced social thinkers. The remedy suggested by me was the gradual socialization of medicine, preferably on the plan utilized by Sweden and there in successful operation today. This was visualized as reorganizing both medical education and medical practice.

The description of me as a "statistical worker in biology" is a little inexact as reference to my scientific past in American Men of Science, 1927, will show. I was for eighteen years a laboratory research worker. I have been on the staff of a medical journal for four years and on that of a drug journal for two. I have worked in industry on the preparation of pharmaceuticals and my laboratory experience in biochemistry acquainted me quite thoroughly with scientific, especially medical literature. That my book had far more merit and a far different purpose than and from those cited by Dr. Haggard is evident from the excellent three-column review of it by Dr. Abr. L. Wolbarst of New York City, one of the leading specialists in the country, and printed in the current issue of The Medical Journal and Record. I especially wanted your readers to know that I addressed myself to the scientific and economic solution of the problem of getting sound preventive and therapeutic medicine into operation in this country. . . .

Mt. Rainier, Md. T. Swann Harding

The Everglades Park

To the Editor: Your issue of February 15 included an editorial, The Everglades and Park Policy, in which are certain statements made I am sure in misapprehension of the facts. As chairman of the National Parks Committee of the American Civic Association and as one who participated in the setting up of true national park standards as opposed to state and local and selfish projects, I have had to take account of the situation and fitness of the proposed Everglades National Park. I am quite familiar with the general situation in that part of the unique Florida peninsula and have long recognized the natural conditions as not only interesting but of value in many directions in relation to the general idea of the national parks.

It is from this background that I set down here my insistence that the proposed Everglades National Park, if established, will be of true national park status.

In your editorial reference is made to "an uncrowded state highway connecting the cities on both coasts and constituting the principal business entrance to the growing city of Miami." If this means the cross-state highway not following the coast, it certainly does not include any important entrance to Miami. In fact I think in considering this Everglades National Park it is of no more importance to discuss Miami and its related highways than it would be to make a similar comparison between Los Angeles and the Yosemite.

I happen to have met citizens of Florida who are interested in holding for all the people of America the unique conditions of this tip of the continent as most of us have been in the preservation of the Yellowstone neighborhood. That there have been promises made to these people I do not know, but I testify to their sincerity in the project.

I cannot understand the implication in the editorial that "it is contrary to public policy for Congress to authorize crowded public highways, railroads, and other negations of the national park policy of sixty years." It is here particularly that I think the writer must have been misinformed. There should be no overlooking of the fact that the National Park authorities have visited and approved this project. Nor should it be without consideration that others of us who have stood back of the national parks, since at my first suggestion, I believe, they were formed into a system, believe that the inclusion of this area in the system is not "to slide backward in our National Park standard."

A look at a National Park map of the United States would disclose a paucity of them in the East. A wise public policy has prevented the purchase of park lands, heretofore erected almost wholly from the public domain. Against the Shenandoah National Park now in existence and the hopefully-near Great Smokies National Park, have been urged the same sort of objections I am now respectfully combatting as inadvisable and unrelated either to actual facts or to the conclusions of those of us who, having fought for National Parks for a quarter-century, yet believe fully in their advance.

J. Horace McFarland

Chairman, National Parks Committee, American Civic Association

Dole-itis

To the Editor: There appears in your February number an article entitled Dole-itis. I believe the writer makes clear a very necessary differential of a sound unemployment insurance as practiced in England and Germany under normal conditions and the present dole system. Too many people confuse the two as identical. There are several items, however, to which I would take exception. In a recent number of The Nation, Henry Raymond Mussey states in reference to England:

> It is not that people live off the dole instead of seeking work, as has been so often and so vociferously charged. The evidence on this point is quite clear and Sir William Beveridge, one of the foremost authorities on the subject of unemployment, characterizes such charges as "idle and irresponsible talk." The system of labor exchanges, an indispensable part of any sound insurance scheme, makes it possible, as Beveridge points out, to control with comparative ease any tendency to prefer idleness to work. If the British experience is any guide (and the experience of Britain does not differ from that of other countries) the United States need not

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

be deterred from introducing unemployment insurance by the fear that its workers will be demoralized by it.

Then I would take exception to the statement concerning the abuse of the sickness laws in Germany. The statement is made that the sickness sum "is $50,000,000 more than the average annuity due under the Young Plan." Does that intimate it should be used for the Young Plan? This sum of money is contributed by the employer paying one third and the employe paying two thirds without government aid. It would, therefore, be impossible to use it for paying off debts.

New York City ELIZABETH LINDEMANN

TO THE EDITOR: I am glad to reply to Elizabeth Lindemann's letter. The first statement relative to what Sir William Beveridge had to say in his revised work is quite true, but the learned economist wrote this work before the changes in the law effected by the 1929-30 Parliament. Those changes included the repeal of the "genuinely seeking work" clause and other provisions weakening the law. More than 500,000 persons are now on the dole who would not have been included on the rolls in 1928 or 1929. These very changes have bred dole-itis.

If one wants proof, let him read the testimony in January and February before the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Unemployment Hearings reproduced in The London Times. Here he may read at length of the abuses of the law, of professional football players, of two-day-a-week miners, of domestic servants leaving positions to work in industry so as to qualify for the dole, of married women drawing the dole who could and ought to be supported by husbands.

The second statement it is hardly necessary to answer. The Young Plan payments were illustrative only; no one suggested that the sickness-insurance payments be used for debt transactions. CHARLES M. MILLS

New York City

A Plea for Beer

TO THE EDITOR: I have read your pithy review of the Wickersham Report [The Survey for February 15, page 539.] The part of the report which I am qualified to criticise relates to the statement of Commissioner Lemann and other members who say that a 2¾ per cent or 3 per cent beer would not satisfy the wets because it is non-intoxicating, and if it were made with a greater alcoholic content and be termed intoxicating it could not be legalized under the Eighteenth Amendment. The shortest answer that I can make to this assertion is that that is not so. Under the war prohibition act, intoxicating liquor was prohibited and the United States Supreme Court upheld those brewers who continued to sell 2¾ per cent beer. During 1918 and 1919 this non-intoxicating beer containing 2¾ per cent of alcohol was consumed to the extent of 38 millions of barrels per year; this in spite of the fact that the price was double what it had been before the war, partly due to the $6 revenue tax which was six times greater than the prior tax of $1 per barrel which had been in existence for fifty years, and in spite of the fact that brewers were limited to 70 per cent of the grain previously used by them. As the Eighteenth Amendment only prohibits intoxicating liquors and as it is admitted that 2¾ per cent beer is non-intoxicating, by what right and under what theory is it prohibited under the Volstead Act when the Amendment prohibits only intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes?

In 1917 eighteen states of the Union produced over 59 million barrels of beer equalling 97 per cent of the total of 66 million barrels produced in the United States. These eighteen states contained 59 per cent of the total population of the United States. Probably if the Wickersham commissioners had known these facts they could not have stated it as their opinion that 2¾ per cent beer will not satisfy the public that demands beer.

If the alcoholic content of beer which under the Volstead Act is limited to less than ½ of 1 per cent were raised to about 3 per cent beer would again become the popular drink and millions of people who now drink whiskey would switch back to beer. I have seen no good reason given what harm the permission for the sale of 3 per cent beer would do. But there are four reasons why the raising of the permissible alcoholic content of beer to about 3 per cent would be helpful: First, it would satisfy many millions of people without doing them any harm; second, it would decrease the consumption of strong drinks; third, it would make it easier to enforce the Volstead Act; fourth, it would greatly diminish lawlessness and graft by eliminating the bootleg breweries.

No one in the United States has ever been unable to procure any kind of whiskey. But good wholesome beer made in well equipped breweries cannot be had. The homemade brews and the beer from bootleg breweries are of an inferior quality.

Brooklyn, N. Y. J. LIEBMAN

Prohibition

TO THE EDITOR: This note is to express appreciation of your magazine in its attitude toward the news on the prohibition question. Some time ago you had a fine article by Jane Addams. This week an article by Whiting Williams in your magazine was reproduced on the editorial page of The Kansas City Star. Neither article expressed unqualified approval of prohibition enforcement, but both recognized and gave testimony for the undoubted good which prohibition has brought and made profitable suggestions. PAUL COLEMAN

Minister Reformed Presbyterian Church,
Kansas City, Mo.

Now Is the Time

TO THE EDITOR: Recently a friend in another city let fall in a letter a sentence with implications which, while ever-present in a day of multiplying foundations, seldom are so neatly framed. Try this over in your own reverse English: "Since the — fund gave up financing the — committee . . ., we need the help of all our friends." THOMAS D. ELIOT

Professor of Sociology, Northwestern University

Idle Eight Months

TO THE EDITOR: "I have a hunch," you say in a letter to me, "that the Survey Graphic, monthly, will be uncommonly useful and interesting to you, as one interested in unemployment."

Yes, I surely am interested! I've been unemployed since May 6, 1930. I write of myself—but not 100 per cent selfishly, for I'm not unmindful of the other unemployed men and women.

Your promise of "breaking the bleak circle of ordinary discussion" with words that "have a creative thrust to them" brings to mind Ibsen's

> It was not words I bade you share:
> They're barren when the belly's bare.

I think many of your brilliant critics ought to be newsboys!

JOHN M. GANCZ

International Association of
Machinists, Warren, R. I.

Mme. Breshkovsky

TO THE EDITOR: Catherine Breshkovsky, "the little Grandmother of the Russian Revolution," has just had her eighty-seventh birthday. A nobleman's daughter, she early espoused the cause of the people, and spent many years in prison and in exile. Everywhere she was a source of inspiration and cheer to those around her. She made two visits to the United States, and left many friends here.

Unable to live in Russia because (*Continued on page* 687)

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

GOSSIP: of People and Things

Anna Garlin Spencer

ONCE on a time when we were very much younger than we are now and the New York School of Social Work was actually very young, Anna Garlin Spencer was the associate director. Every morning there was a lecture by a Distinguished Somebody and every afternoon we visited a jail or a poorhouse or the dreadful place on the Island where the City of New York cared for its feebleminded children in the midst of a great swarm of flies. It was all very puzzling to young students who had highly resolved to go into something then called charity work. But just as we were about to give it up and get jobs as bankers or cops or reporters, Mrs. Spencer would stand up in the front of the old C. O. S. library and tell us what it all meant to her. And then the doubting was over. There could be no question whatever of the occupation which brought such a glow of conviction to this vivid little person. For she was a mere wisp of a woman, "as big as a half-pint of cider" in the Mid-West vernacular which some of us brought in our schoolkits. But she had the spirit of a giant, and a fine, full speaking voice which the men lecturers secretly envied her, and some warm trick of putting color into everything she said and did. The gray dresses she invariably wore seemed somehow to be bright, like a summer garden. It was the most characteristic thing in the world that she should work all of a certain Tuesday at her desk in the American Social Hygiene Association, attend in the evening a public dinner on world peace where she was stricken with a heart attack, and be dead on Thursday —the day Lincoln was born. Mrs. Spencer had been a newspaper reporter, a Unitarian minister, a college professor, a lecturer, a writer, a social worker; she had worked for suffrage, for social hygiene, for understanding and good-will among the people of the world. Most of all she was a teacher, through every one of the channels that opened to her over a life of seventy-nine active years. Few of us who have been warmed by her fire will come so close to dying with our boots on.

Publicity Plus

SOCIAL work publicity broke into the "big time" when The Saturday Evening Post published Stella Akulin Koenig's article The Art Of Giving, and featured her as secretary of Henry Street Settlement, New York. Mrs. Koenig also directs publicity for the Settlement and she would have been less than human had she refrained from an adroit allusion or two to that organization and to the work of visiting nurses in general. But on the whole Mrs. Koenig succeeded in seeing the forest and not the trees and in putting before the big public of the SatEvePost an impression of social-work methods and organization not always achieved by those who confine their labors to surveying the underbrush.

Personal and Professional

DR. WILLIAM W. PETER, director of the Health Service of the Cleanliness Institute, has gone to China at the invitation of the Chinese Ministry of Health to help organize a national health-education program for the Nationalist government. Cleanliness Institute has given him an eight-months leave with salary to enable him to undertake the mission. China is Dr. Peter's old stamping-ground. He was one of the founders of the China Council on Health Education and was its director from 1911 to 1926. During the World War he served with the Chinese Labor Corps in France.

How far a good man goes! Dr. George K. Pratt, for six years assistant medical director of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, has extended himself to cover the duties of medical director of the Mental Hygiene Committee of the State Charities Aid Association of New York. In addition to his direct activities with both organizations he will carry on in cooperation with both of them an experimental demonstration in New York State of a model program for state and provincial mental hygiene organizations in the United States and Canada. Dr. Pratt has long been identified with the mental hygiene movement. After extensive psychiatric training he went in 1921 to the Massachusetts Society for Mental Hygiene and four years later joined the staff of the National Committee. He pioneered in the development of a number of educational techniques and has a wide reputation as a writer and as a teacher in the field of mental-hygiene education.

FROM a British paper, relaid by the bulletin of the American Nurses' Association, comes the story of an English nurse's bright idea and its result. She was on night duty in a small suburban home and her room was above the front door where the rat-tat of the knocker and the chatter on the porch repeatedly broke her rest during the day. So she had the happy thought of writing a note, "Please remember the night nurse," and putting it in a conspicuous position on the hall table. When she came down that evening she was taken aback by finding in front of it two half-crowns, a shilling and three sixpences.

FOR a long time now newspaper news of prohibition has consisted chiefly of monotonous announcements of one good man after another going wet. About as exciting as the good old sedative of counting the sheep jumping the stile. But there's news of another sort from Boston where Dr. Richard C. Cabot, who has always had a flair for making up his own mind, has accepted the presidency of the Massachusetts Anti-Saloon League during the same year in which he is president of the National Conference of Social Work. The League quotes him as follows: "From the medical point of view we should all be prohibitionists, because there is no question that prohibition improves the public health. Statistics of the diseases connected with the abuse of alcohol show conclusively that in 1920, when prohibition was fairly well enforced, public health was very markedly improved. Even today with very unsatisfactory enforcement, all authorities who are competent to speak on the subject agree that the health of children has markedly improved under prohibition, due presumably to the larger proportion of their fathers' wages now being spent on their care."

A NEW kind of federal help for local projects has been tried out in Chicago where the government furnished 1,250,000 franked envelopes for use in mopping up the last $150,000 of the $5,000,000 fund of the Governor's Commission on Unemployment and Relief which is to supplement the budgets of the regular relief agencies. To make the goal it was considered necessary to reach almost every man and woman in the city, and it was held impossible to send a solicitor to every home. With President Hoover's approval, the postmaster-general and the secretary of commerce supplied the envelopes bearing the government frank so that the Commission is saved the expense of envelopes and postage and need not even lick on the stamps. We nominate Mr. Hoover as a charter member of the brand new Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Office Boys' Tongues.

THE Chicago Council of Social Agencies is so satisfied with the result of its emergency course for volunteers given in January with the connivance of the Graduate School of Social Service Administration at Chicago University, that it proposes to repeat it. The course covered social work in the city in twelve practical lectures emphasizing useful opportunities for the services of unpaid workers. Of the fifty-five women who took the course forty-five were immedately placed with agencies with generally gratifying results. "Of course," says Helen Cody Baker in the Council's news letter, "a few fell by the wayside and a few were hoping that the course would lead to paid employment. That kind of thing happens as we all know. We did the best we could by them in twelve short hours and they are doing better by us that we had dared to hope."

EARLY in February, Anna E. Richardson, educator and home economist, died suddenly at her home in Washington. Since 1926 she had been identified with the American Home Economics Association as director of its work in child development and parental education. She participated in the White House Conference as chairman of the subcommittee on education for home and family life.

As an aid to the elimination of guesswork in the relationship of the organization and its employes, the Buffalo Tuberculosis Association has adopted an office manual containing eleven succinct regulations which set down in black and white the Association's practice in regard to working hours,

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

sick leave, vacations, use of the telephone and a handful of other subjects that plague the administrator.

THE Social Work Publicity Council has announced eight contests for material of unusual excellence, awards to be made and the prize-winning material to be displayed at the Council's annual meeting in Minneapolis at the time of the National Conference of Social Work. Prizes of $25 each will be awarded for annual reports, preferably simple and inexpensive, envelope stuffers, house organs for the lay public, staff house organs, industrial posters, published educational photographs, social case-work stories and suburban publicity. The contests close on April 15. As in previous years each contest is conducted by a local council. A special bulletin with the conditions of the contests and the bases on which the entries will be judged may be obtained from the Social Work Publicity Council, 130 East 22 Street, New York.

IF you know a nurse who has made an outstanding contribution to her profession speak up before April 6 and recommend her for the Walter Burns Saunders Memorial Medal. The first award was made last year posthumously to S. Lillian Clayton, former president of the American Nurses' Association. To receive the medal a nurse must have made "to the profession or to the public some outstanding contribution, either in personal service or in the discovery of some nursing technique that may be to the advantage of the patient and to the profession. The only kind of service excluded is that of writing." The committee on award includes the presidents of the three national nursing organizations, and the donor, W. L. Saunders, 2nd, of Philadelphia. Detailed information may be secured from the American Nurses' Association, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York.

THE Women's Educational and Industrial Union of Boston, through its Department of Research, is offering three fellowships of $500 each to women who wish to prepare themselves for professional positions in social-economic research. A college degree is a first requisite—and there are others. For details address the Union at 264 Boylston Street, Boston.

IN a stout mimeographed document of 178 pages the Research Bureau of the Welfare Council of New York presents a bibliography with notes on all significant material that has been published in the United States since the World War on social-work finance and publicity. Chapters of books and articles are arranged by topics and briefly abstracted. An exhaustive table of contents and an index of authors facilitate access to the mountain of references that have been assembled. The bibliography is part of the Welfare Council's study under the direction of Arthur J. Todd, of the financing of social work in New York City.

THE family-welfare people might give Herr Einstein a new line on relativity. When Paul L. Benjamin, in behalf of the Family and Publicity Divisions of the National Conference of Social Work, asked Philip L. Ketchum of Omaha to speak on Every Relation a Public Relation, Bro' Ketchum came back quick as scat with the alternative title, Every Relation a Poor Relation.

Rollin Kirby in The New York World

"You can count on Father Knickerbocker"

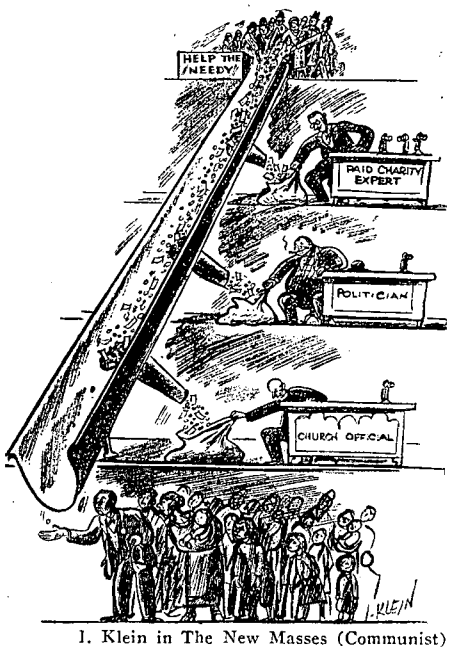
Fred Jerger in Labor Age

"A Drop in the Bucket"

EDWARD W. MACY has been appointed executive director of the Children's Aid Society of Brooklyn, N. Y., succeeding Arthur E. Wakeman, who resigned some time since after many years service. Mr. Macy is a seasoned social worker. He has held posts with the National Child Labor Committee, the Red Cross, and the Savannah Family Welfare Society and Council of Social Agencies. He was a major of infantry during the War.

ALFRED C. CROUSE, chief probation officer of the Cincinnati Court of Domestic Relations, is acting as secretary to Governor White of Ohio during the four months of the legislative session. His court post will be filled during his absence by Mary Edna McChristie, the court referee.

THE silver cup awarded annually by the Council of Social Agencies for "the outstanding piece of individual social-service work in Los Angeles" has been awarded for 1930 to Mary S. Covell, social welfare director of the Midnight Mission, for her work in the rehabilitation of that misguided philanthropy into an agency now in the first rank of those approved by the Community Chest.



I. Klein in The New Masses (Communist)

"Charity"

OUR especially esteemed contemporary, The Public Health Nurse, is doing its bit in hard times by running free positions-wanted ads. for unemployed nurses.

IN piping hard times the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor will take contributions under any name—even one which came addressed to "The Poor Improving Ass."

Personals

HELEN ANDERSON, formerly in charge of the medical social work of All Nations' Clinic in Los Angeles, has been appointed to the staff of the Riverside County Welfare department, California.

C. W. ARESON, formerly executive, DePelchin Faith Home and Children's Bureau, Houston, Texas, has been appointed director, Cleveland Humane Society, Cleveland.

RUTH W. ATKINSON, formerly executive director of the Tampa Welfare League and Community Chest, has been appointed to the Florida State Board of Public Welfare.

CHARLOTTE BANGERT, formerly of the Community Center, Monterey, Calif., has been appointed field visitor for county relief of Monterey County.

OLIVIA BARDEN, formerly with the Telegraph Hill Settlement, San Francisco, has been appointed social worker for the Big Sisters of Alameda County, California.

DR. MARGARET W. BARNARD has been appointed medical director of the Bellevue-Yorkville Health Demonstration of New York.

ELEANOR BARNS has been appointed executive of the Finance Department of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association.

GERALDINE M. BEERY, formerly on the staff of the Bureau of Charities, Denver, Colo., has been appointed case worker on the staff of the Social Service Bureau, Honolulu, T. H. (Info. from J.V.S.)

OLIVE BIGGAR, formerly with the Family Service Society, New Orleans, La., has been appointed executive secretary, Provident Association, Shreveport, La.

LUCIA JOHNSON BING has resigned as director, Division of Charities, State Department of Public Welfare, Ohio.

E. BLOOMHART, formerly instructress of nurses, Municipal Hospital, Tampa, has been appointed superintendent of nurses, Grace Hospital, Hutchinson, Kansas.

E. L. BOULDI has been appointed executive secretary of the Springfield (Mo.) Community Chest.

(*Continued on page* 688)

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DIRECTORY OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

Child Welfare

ASSOCIATED GUIDANCE BUREAU, INC.—One East Fifty-Third Street, New York. Telephone: Plaza 9512. A non-sectarian non-philanthropic child guidance bureau, employing highest social work standards. Work includes consultation and home service with behavior maladjustments of children, adolescents, and young adults. For information address Jess Perlman, Director.

BIG BROTHER AND BIG SISTER FEDERATION, INC.—425 Fourth Avenue, New York, and 400 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago. A league of eleemosynary organizations of Catholics, Jews and Protestants in United States and Canada rendering personal, individual and intensive service to children in preventing delinquency. George MacDonald, President, Rowland C. Sheldon and Herbert D. Williams, Ph.D., Executives.

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA—C. C. Carstens, director, 130 E. 22nd Street, New York City. A league of children's agencies and institutions to secure improved standards and methods in their various fields of work. It also cooperates with other children's agencies, cities, states, churches, fraternal orders and other civic groups to work out worth-while results in phase of child welfare in which they are interested.

NATIONAL CHILD LABOR COMMITTEE—Courtenay Dinwiddie, General Secretary, 331 Fourth Avenue, New York. To improve child labor legislation; to conduct investigation in local communities; to advise on administration; to furnish information. Annual membership, $2, $5, $10, $25 and $100 includes monthly publication, "The American Child."

Education

ART EXTENSION SOCIETY—The Art Center, 65 East 56th Street, New York City. Purpose—to promote art interest and appreciation by means of the publication of books and reproductions. Membership from $2.00 to $50.00 per annum.

WORKER'S EDUCATION BUREAU OF AMERICA—A cooperative Educational Agency for the promotion of Adult Education among Industrial Workers. 1440 Broadway, New York City. Spencer Miller, Jr., Secretary.

Foundation

RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION—For the Improvement of Living Conditions—John M. Glenn, dir.; 130 E. 22nd St., New York. Departments: Charity Organization, Delinquency and Penology, Industrial Studies, Library, Recreation, Remedial Loans, Statistics, Surveys and Exhibits. The publications of the Russell Sage Foundation offer to the public in practical and inexpensive form some of the most important results of its work. Catalogue sent upon request.

Health

AMERICAN BIRTH CONTROL LEAGUE INC.—Mrs. F. Robertson Jones, President, 152 Madison Ave., New York City. Purpose: To teach the need for birth control to prevent destitution, disease and social deterioration; to amend laws adverse to birth control; to render safe, reliable contraceptive information accessible to all married persons. Annual membership, $2.00 to $500.00. Birth Control Review (monthly), $2.00 per year, voluntary contribution.

AMERICAN SOCIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION—370 Seventh Ave., New York. To provide a better understanding of the social hygiene movement; to advance sound sex education, to combat prostitution and sex delinquency; to aid public authorities in the campaign against the venereal diseases; to advise in organization of state and local social-hygiene programs. Annual membership dues $2.00 including monthly journal.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MENTAL HYGIENE, INC.—Dr. William H. Welch, honorary president; Dr. Charles P. Emerson, president; Dr. C. M. Hincks, general director; Clifford W. Beers, secretary; 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City. Pamphlets on mental hygiene, child guidance, mental disease, mental defect, psychiatric social work and other related topics. Catalogue of publications sent on request. "Mental Hygiene," quarterly, $3.00 a year; "Mental Hygiene Bulletin," monthly, $1.00 a year.

NATIONAL HEALTH CIRCLE FOR COLORED PEOPLE, Inc.—370 Seventh Avenue, New York City. Col. Theodore Roosevelt, Honorary President; Dr. Jesse E. Mooreland, Pres.; Dr. George C. Booth, Treasurer; Miss Belle Davis, Executive Secretary.

To organize public opinion and support for health work among colored people.
To create and stimulate health consciousness and responsibility among the colored people in their own health problems.
To recruit, help educate and place young colored women in public health work.
Work supported by membership and voluntary contributions.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING—370 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. Katharine Tucker, R.N., General Director. Organized to promote public health nursing, establish standards, offer field advisory service, collect statistics and information on current practices. Official monthly magazine: *The Public Health Nurse.*

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS—Lewis H. Carris, Managing Director; Mrs. Winifred Hathaway, Associate Director; B. Franklin Rover, M.D., Medical Director; Eleanor P. Brown, Secretary, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York. Studies scientific advances in medical and pedagogical knowledge and disseminates practical information as to ways of preventing blindness and conserving sight. Literature, exhibits, lantern slides, lectures, charts and co-operation in sight-saving projects available on request.

NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS ASSOCIATION—370 Seventh Ave., New York. Dr. Henry Boswell, president; Dr. Kendall Emerson, managing director. Pamphlets of methods and program for the prevention of tuberculosis. Publications sold and distributed through state associations in every state. Journal of the Outdoor Life, popular monthly magazine, $2.00 a year; American Review of Tuberculosis, medical journal, $8.00 a year; and Monthly Bulletin, house organ, free.

Home Economics

AMERICAN HOME ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION—Alice L. Edwards, executive secretary, 620 Mills Bldg., Washington, D. C. Organized for betterment of conditions in home, school, institution and community. Publishes monthly Journal of Home Economics; office of editor, 620 Mills Bldg., Washington, D. C.; of business manager, 101 East 20th St., Baltimore, Md.

Religious Organizations

COUNCIL OF WOMEN FOR HOME MISSIONS—105 E. 22d St., New York. Composed of the national women's home mission boards of the United States and Canada. Purpose: To unify effort by consultation and cooperation in action and to represent Protestant church women in such national movements as they desire to promote interdenominationally.

Florence E. Quinlan, Executive Secretary.
Religious Work for Indian Schools, Helen M. Brickman, Director.
Migrant Work, Edith E. Lowry, Secretary.
Adela J. Ballard, Western Supervisor.
Womens interdenominational groups — state and local—are promoted.

GIRL'S FRIENDLY SOCIETY OF THE U. S. A.—386 Fourth Avenue, New York City. A national organization for all girls, sponsored by the Episcopal Church. Provides opportunities for character growth and friendship through a program adapted to local needs. Membership 46,000.

NATIONAL BOARD OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS—Mrs. Robert E. Speer, president; Miss Anna V. Rice, General Secretary; Miss Emma Hirth, Associate Secretary; 600 Lexington Avenue, New York City. This organization maintains a staff of executive and traveling secretaries for advisory work in the United States in 1,034 local Y.W.C.A.'s on behalf of the industrial, business, student, foreign born, Indian, colored and younger girls. It has 103 American secretaries at work in 16 centers in the Orient, Latin America and Europe.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN—625 Madison Avenue, New York City. Mrs. Joseph E. Friend, President; Mrs. Estelle M. Sternberger, Executive Secretary. Program covers twelve departments in religious, educational, civic and legislative work, peace and social service. Official publication: "The Jewish Woman."

Department of Service for Foreign Born. For the protection and education of immigrant women and girls. Maintains Bureau of International Service. Quarterly bulletin, "The Immigrant." Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman, Chairman; Cecilia Razovsky, Secretary.

Department of Farm and Rural Work, Mrs. Abraham H. Arons, Chairman; Mrs. Elmer Eckhouse, Secretary. Program of education, recreation, religious instruction and social service work for rural communities.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES—347 Madison Avenue, New York City. Composed of 360 elected representatives from local Y.M.C.A's. Maintains a staff of 135 secretaries serving in the United States and 142 secretaries at work in 32 foreign countries. Francis S. Harmon, President; Adrian Lyon, Chairman, General Board; Fred W. Ramsey, General Secretary.

William E. Speers, Chairman Home Division. R. E. Tulloss, Chairman Personnel Division. Thomas W. Graham, Chairman Student Division. Wilfred W. Fry, Chairman Foreign Committee.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

DIRECTORY OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

Racial Adjustment

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE—For social service among Negroes. L. Hollingsworth Wood, pres.; Eugene Kinckle Jones, exec. sec'y; 17 Madison Ave., New York. Establishes committees of white and colored people to work out community problems. Trains Negro social workers. Publishes "Opportunity"—a "journal of Negro life."

Recreation

NATIONAL RECREATION ASSOCIATION— 315 Fourth Ave., New York City, Joseph Lee, president; H. S. Braucher, secretary. To bring to every boy and girl and citizen of America an adequate opportunity for wholesome, happy play and recreation. Playgrounds, community centers, swimming pools, athletics, music, drama, camping, home play, are all means to this end.

National Conference

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK— Richard C. Cabot, president, Boston; Howard R. Knight, secretary, 277 E. Long St., Columbus, Ohio. The Conference is an organization to discuss the principles of humanitarian effort and to increase the efficiency of social service agencies. Each year it holds an annual meeting, publishes in permanent form the Proceedings of the meeting, and issues a quarterly Bulletin. The fifty-eighth annual convention of the Conference will be held in Minneapolis, June 14-20, 1931. Proceedings are sent free of charge to all mebers upon payment of a membership fee of five dollars.

Pamplets and Periodicals

Inexpensive literature which, however important, does not warrant costly advertising, may be advertised to advantage in the Pamphlets and Periodicals column of Survey Graphic and Midmonthly.

RATES:—75c a line (actual) for four insertions.

Women's Trade Union

NATIONAL WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE OF AMERICA — Mrs. Raymond Robins, honorary president; Miss Rose Schneiderman, president; Miss Elisabeth Christman, secretary-treasurer; Machinists Bldg., 9th and Mt. Vernon Place, N. W., Washington, D. C. Stands for self-government in the work shop through trade union organization; and for the enactment of industrial legislation. Official publication, Life and Labor Bulletin. Information given.

DIRECTORY RATES

Graphic: 30c per (actual) line (12 insertions a year)

Graphic and Midmonthly } 28c per (actual) line (24 insertions a year)

(*Continued from page* 683) she is out of sympathy with the Bolsheviki, she has founded several boarding schools for poor children in Russian Carpathia, now a district of Czechoslovakia. The people of this province are of Russian stock, very poor and ignorant, but highly gifted by nature, she says, and eager for education. Many graduates of her schools have become teachers. She has supported these schools for years, chiefly with American money, but she is always hard pressed to maintain them. Let her American friends help to give her a happy birthday by sending her a contribution, large or small, for her schools. Her address is Catherine Breshkovsky, care of Madame Archangelsky, Drubezarna, P. Horny Pocernice, U Prahy, Prague, Czechoslovakia. Or I will gladly forward any contributions.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL

3 *Monadnock St., Boston*

Said of The Survey

TO THE EDITOR:

Enclosed is my long-delayed check. How patient you have been! How courteously and kindly you have worded your reminders of failure on my part to keep a promise! May I reveal a little of my perplexities. For forty-one years I have been pastor in the little village of Academy, seventeen miles from the nearest railroad for the past thirty years, twenty-seven miles from the nearest railroad before that for eleven years. The crops for 1926-27-28-29-30 have been partial or near total failures. Last year I was paid on salary $375. The year before $500. Very little thus far this year though an organized effort is being made to do better. Were it not for an annuity of $500 it would be necessary for us to give up our home.

How can I afford The Survey? It brings to me in such isolation as I have mentioned, something of life that my farmer folks would not know if I did not have it to give them and thus soften and broaden their sympathies for others. I need The Survey.

LEWIS E. CAMFIELD

President Emeritus, Ward Academy, Academy, S. Dak.

FLEXNERIZING THE UNIVERSITIES

(*Continued from page* 663)

maker; appropriately emphasized for the attention of young women on the eve of entering that most difficult and complicated of the skilled professions—parenthood. My own criticism of the Vassar "Euthenics" is that it is insufficiently *"ad hoc"!*

However I have so much sympathy with Dr. Flexner's main purpose, which is to rescue education from the cheap, superficial utilitarianism to which it has surrendered, that I can readily forgive and beg his incidental victims to forgive, his human sins of injustice and slap-dash characterization. Everybody who has paid any attention to the subject knows that what he says is on the whole true enough to constitute a valid indictment. Wherever the evidence that he assembles may be inaccurate or otherwise defective in detail, the lack can be easily and abundantly made good. But what Dr. Flexner fails to recognize, so far as saying it out loud is concerned, is that education in America, from the ground up, like education anywhere else in time or space, is a true expression of the life-creed of the people. Scholarship, in the sense that Flexner has in mind, always has been the possession of the few; I dare say it always will be. The pursuit of truth for its own sake; enjoyment of mental leisure in intellectual activities having no ulterior purpose save that of enjoyment—where in the hullabaloo of present-day life, anywhere in the world, is there room for these?

Yet something live is stirring and underlies the turmoil. Little as he realizes or could express it, the go-getter knows in his heart that all this *"ad hoc"* stuff is not the Real Thing. He has got possession of the machinery of education but he doesn't know what to do with it. He is both bored and appalled by the increasing margin of mere raw *time*—leisure—to which intensified production is condemning him; increasingly he suspects that the answer lies somewhere in the mysterious midst of "learning," round the edges of which he is noisily bush-whacking. As yet he thinks that education is a veneer that can be applied like rouge and lip-stick; something that you can buy. Not yet has he—or many of the scholars either—come to understand that education is neither a business nor a building but a growth; that it begins, not in the university nor in the school, but in the cradle. It is largely because we know so little about the cradle that the universities are such a mess.

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

For Social Workers

Nurses and All Who Are Interested in Community Health Programs

An attractive combination offer is now possible

THE SURVEY—twice-a-month (Graphic and Midmonthly).
The ideal magazine for social workers. The indispensable medium for information on social welfare and progress. Regularly $5.00 a year.
THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE—monthly.
The magazine for public health nurses and for workers in allied groups. The official publication of the National Organization for Public Health Nursing. Regularly $3.00 a year.

$5.50 for both

Whether or not you are a lay or nurse member of the N.O.P.H.N. this bargain offer is for you, provided you are a new subscriber to either magazine.

This coupon entitles you to the big saving. Mail it today. Pay later if you wish, but enclose your check if possible and have it over with.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE, 370 Seventh Ave., New York

Enter me for a year of The Public Health Nurse and The Survey. I enclose $5.50 (or will send within 30 days after receipt of bill).

Name .....

Address 3-15-31

A COMBINATION OFFER

of Two Outstanding Social Service Journals

THE SURVEY, $5.00

THE SOCIAL SERVICE REVIEW, $4.00

both for $7.00

For a limited period, a year's subscription to both *The Social Service Review* and *The Survey*, the two outstanding journals in the field of social service, is being offered at a reduction of $2.00. *The Social Service Review* emphasizes the professional and scientific aspects of social service work in authoritative articles of research, reviews, and source materials. To complement this, *The Survey* presents an array of practical and technical material indispensable to the social service worker.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

5750 Ellis Avenue *Chicago, Illinois*

(*Continued from page 685*)

JULIA BRANSON, formerly director, Mother's Assistance Fund, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has been appointed director of Mother's Assistance Fund, Pittsburgh.

HAZEL BRAZEE has been appointed clinic nurse, Foster Home Department, New York Nursery and Childs Hospital, New York City. (Info. from J.V.S.)

ALETA BROWNLEE, formerly Red Cross field representative in Oregon and California, has been appointed executive secretary of the Santa Barbara (Calif.) County Welfare Department.

HENRY M. BUSCH has resigned as associate professor of group work, Western Reserve University and has been appointed director of the Division of Informal Adult Education, Cleveland College.

LUCILE CAIRNS, formerly medical social worker with the Los Angeles County Health Department, has been appointed to the staff of the Santa Barbara County Welfare Department.

HOMER CALVER has resigned as executive secretary of the American Public Health Association but will continue with the organization as consultant in the field of popular health education.

FREDERICKA CATTON, for many years a member of the nursing staff of the Oakland (Calif.) Health Center, has been appointed supervising nurse.

MARGARET CAVALLARO has been appointed staff nurse, Henry Street Visiting Nurse Society, New York City. (Info. from J.V.S.)

CLARA CHITWOOD has been appointed staff field nurse, Cattaraugus County Department of Health, Olean, N. Y. (Info. from J.V.S.)

MABEL CHOATE, formerly with the Friendly Aid Association of Braintree, Mass., has been appointed executive secretary of the Family Welfare Association of Brockton, Mass.

DR. WALTER CLARK has been appointed associate general director of the American Social Hygiene Association, New York City.

JULIA CRONIN, formerly in charge of the Women's Public Safety Committee Nurses of Chelsea, Mass., has been appointed to the Boston public school staff.

MARY CUMMINGS has been appointed part-time public health nurse, Master's Day School Nursery, New York City. (Info. from J.V.S.)

VIRGINIA CURRIE, formerly with the San Francisco playground department, has been appointed in charge of girls' and women's activities at the Santa Barbara Recreation Center.

CLARENCE H. DAWSON of New York has been appointed assistant to the director and publicity director of the Harrisburg (Pa.) Welfare Federation.

FLORENCE DAY, associate professor of family case work, Western Reserve University, is on leave of absence for a year to organize a similar course at the University of Denver, in cooperation with the Denver chapter, American Association of Social Workers.

IVY ELIZABETH DOLBY has been appointed advisory nurse, Ocean County Public Health Association, Toms River, N. J.

MARY J. DUNN has been appointed professor in public health nursing course, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

SUZANNE DUNN, associate director of the Erie Family Service Society, Erie, Pa., is taking a six months' course at the Pennsylvania School of Social Work, Philadelphia.

MARGARET FARQUHAR has been appointed superintendent of the Convalescent Home for Babies, Sea Cliff, Long Island. (Info. from J.V.S.)

ADMINISTRATOR'S GUIDE

ENGRAVING

GILL ENGRAVING CO., Photo Engravers, 140 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C. Careful, expert, artistic work. Twenty-four hour service. Ask The Survey about us. We do all the engraving for Survey Midmonthly and Survey Graphic.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

R. ORTHWINE, 344 W. 34th St., N. Y. C. Invincible steel files, letter and cap sizes, with all standard combinations; steel storage cabinets—office furniture, wood and steel, commercial grades and up. Office supplies, marble desk sets, etc. Wholesale and retail, attractive prices—write.

(*Continued from page 651*) deplorable health status of our Indian children, and a generous tribute to the admirable cosmopolitan health program of Hawaii nothing was said, at least in public, of the shocking destitution and resultant disease of the children of Porto Rico. The complaint of the eugenists that insufficient emphasis was placed on the need of research upon heredity was fairly justified. Ten years from now a more liberal attitude will doubtless be taken, in and out of any national health conference, on contraception as a socio-medico-legal problem of education and practice.

Physicians who know said it was the finest pediatric meeting they had ever attended. Nurses felt themselves welcomed, and shared in the higher responsibilities of their profession to a rare degree. Social workers heard the proper claims of their indispensability for childhood argued to their hearts' delight. All who came were gratified by the impersonal candor of the discussions, and left convinced that as the individual child is the proper center and reason for family life so childhood is a sufficient excuse for our social order.

Will society accept the facts and make effective the program presented by the pediatrists?

PRODUCED BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED